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MAD^{IND}®



HELLOOOOOOOO
NEUMAN!



#364 December 1997 Our Price \$2.50 Cheap!



\$3.50 CANADA

SOUP
NAZI

SEINFELD • AIR FORCE ONE • DREW CAREY

MAD^{IND}®



HELLOOOOOOOO
NEUMAN!



III
RT
DRUCKER

#364 December 1997 Our Price \$9.50 Cheap!

\$3.50 CANADA



'Tis the season to waste money!

FA FA FA FA FA — FA FA FA FA!



MAD's real dumb and not too funny!

FA FA FA FA FA — FA FA FA FA!

Most will find it quite unpleasant!

FA FA FA FA FA — FA FA FA!



Screw 'em all, it's a cheap present!

FA FA FA FA FA — FA FA FA FA!

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MAD

DECEMBER 1997 NUMBER 364



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Paul Levitz
executive vice president & publisher

Nick Meglin & John Ficarra
editors

Jonathan Schneider
art director

Editorial:

Joe Orlando consulting editor

Charlie Kadam & Joe Raiola associate editors

David Shayne assistant editor

Amy Mavrikis editorial assistant

Dick DeBartolo creative consultant

Annie Gaines managing editor

Dorothy Crouch vp-licensed publishing
and associate publisher

Art Department:

Nadina S. Simon assistant art director

Leonard Brenner graphics consultant

Thomas Nozkowski production

Marla Weisenborn production assistant

Circulation:

Daniel Brown director-business development
& mass market sales

Administration:

Patrick Caddon vp-finance & operations

Lillian Laserson vp-legal affairs

Bob Rozakis executive director-production

Contributing Artists And Writers
the usual gang of idiots

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"The clearest digital signal is still
slipping someone the bird!"
— Alfred E. Neuman

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FRONT COVER ARTIST: MORT DRUCKER

FRONT COVER BORDER ARTIST: PAUL COKER

BACK COVER ARTIST: HERMANN MEJIA

BACK COVER WRITER: DESMOND DEVLIN



**MAD #365 ON SALE
DECEMBER 16!**

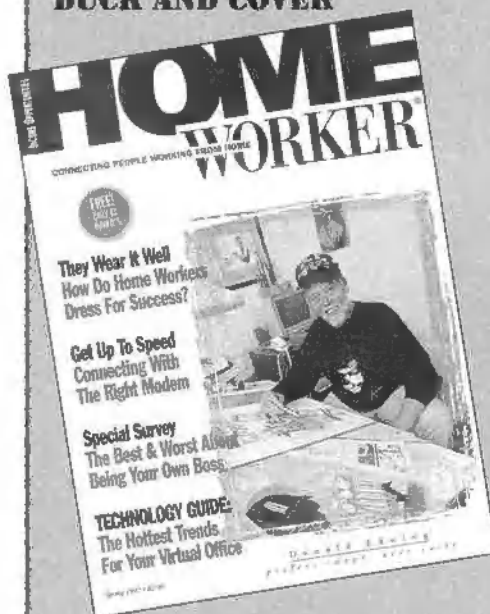
THE GUARDS MUST BE CRAZY

I am writing in regards to your article "So, You're Going to Prison" (Issue #358). During a routine shakedown of my cell (I'm in jail for 48 months for possessing 6 marijuana plants) I was given a confiscation notice that "reading material which threatened the security of the institution" had been seized. That material was MAD #358.

D. A. Hittle
Eastern Oregon Correctional Institute
Pendleton, OR

D.A. — We've always maintained that MAD is a good prison read! If it wasn't for repeat offenders, lifers and the boys on death row, we probably would've been out of business years ago! Sorry, D.A., but in this case we have to side with the guards. Clearly, if they let the prison article you mention through, and inmates started making toilet paper roses and hand knit toilet bowl cozies, it would only be a matter of time before they were scaling the walls and rioting in the Yard! (P.S. as a result of your letter, we're suspending plans to include a hacksaw in every issue of #365...the heat is on!) In the meantime, please give our regards to Slashy and Warden Baldwin! —Ed.

DUCK AND COVER



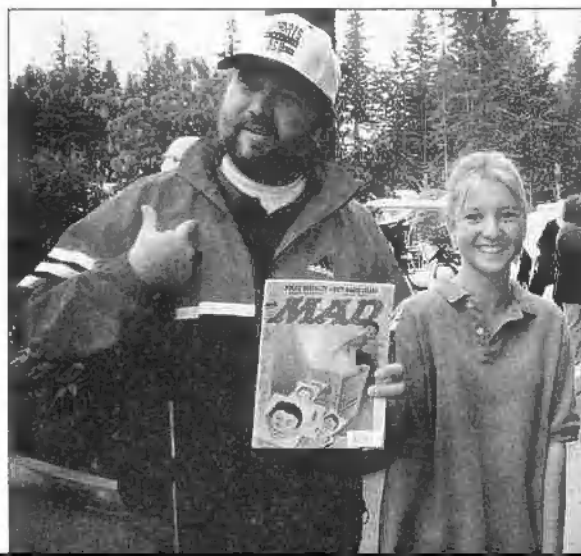
Kinko's patrons were aghast to find none other than MAD's own Duck Edwing on the cover of the copy store chain's exclusive magazine *Home Worker*. We were surprised as well, because with what we pay Duck we thought he was homeless!

HOW TO REACH US

Please Address Correspondence To: MAD, Dept. 364, 1700 Broadway, New York, New York 10019. MAD welcomes reader submissions. Manuscripts will not be returned or acknowledged, however, unless they are accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope!

MAD CELEBRITY SNAPS

Tim Allen whipping boy Richard Karn was gracious enough to pose for a picture with Carey Proctor of Pt. Orchard, WA and a copy of MAD! This earns Carey a big fat 3-year subscription to our fine publication. Boy! That's quite a HOME IMPROVEMENT! Get it? —Ed



NO MORE MR. ICE GUY

I did not read "Walt Disney Visits His Studio Today" from MAD #357, but I did read the letter from Robert Frankel (MAD #361) in which he refers to unthawing Walt Disney or unthawing Walt Disney's ashes. In either case, the results would still be frozen, since to "unthaw" means to "not thaw".

Mark Isham
Elizabethtown, KY

Marky Mark — You're a thaw loser — just chill! —Ed.

PUT ANOTHER CATALOG ON THE FIRE

I have worked for Ikea going on 8 1/2 years now and was very happy to see that you finally did a spoof on us in issue #360 ("The IKRAPPA Catalogue"). I find this to be a very big compliment to us and feel like we have finally made it!

RedBarTX@aol.com

Red — You enjoyed it? Apparently, like many of the shelving units your company manufactures, you're missing a few screws! You may think this response is as flimsy as some of the end tables you sell, but it's a big letters page — somebody's gotta fill it! Thanks for writing! —Ed.

INQUIRY

Attention MAD subscribers! A few years ago, we started putting brown and then white wrappers on our magazines with jokes(?) on them. We now want a complete list of those wrappers with the issue number and what joke and/or visual gag is on each. The first person to send a complete list to our New York office (Attn. Amy Mavrikis) will receive a special MAD gift! Thank you!

A PAIR OF CHEWS

In "Redneck USA" (MAD #360), you showed a can of Skoal tobacco and ignorantly called it chewing tobacco. You city slickers should know that Skoal isn't chewing tobacco, it's snuff, which is cut finer and isn't chewed. Real chewing tobacco is cut longer and comes in a pouch.

Brandon Elmer
Evansville, WI

Brando — Snuff said! See ya at the mouth cancer clinic! —Ed.

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<http://www.dc.comics.com/mad/>**

MONROE DOCTORIN'

Monroe rules! Of course it would be cool if in one strip his mom started hitting on the black spy! She would do that...believe me.

DmanChaz@aol.com

Sunny D — All right! Your wish is our command. Here's a sneak peek at our new strip, "Spy Vs. Mom"! Enjoy! —Ed.



ALFRED E-MAIL

I was browsing through your July 1996 issue when I noticed the article "What if God was One of Us?" In the section where God is on the worst-dressed list, it mentioned fashion designer Gianni Versace. I just wanted to make a point that exactly one year later, Versace would be murdered outside his home in Florida.

Tyrant1@aol.com

Ty — And WE want to make the point that on the Letters Page of our December 1997 issue, we mention you, Tyrant1! Have a happy new year and don't forget to duck! —Ed.



COPULATION EXPLOSION

In issue #360 you had an article called "The MAD World of Sex." I didn't think this was appropriate because you might have younger readers who don't understand it.

Lucas Cummins
Franfort, KY

Lucky Luc — You're half right! It's not our readers who don't understand, it's a good portion of our WRITERS who don't understand! In fact, this coming weekend, long-time MAD editor Nick Meglin is having "the talk" with writer Desmond Devlin. "Uncle Nick" has props, charts and hand puppets — the whole nine yards! Trust us, you don't want to be there! —Ed.

ATTENTION SUBSCRIBERS!

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MATH APPEAL

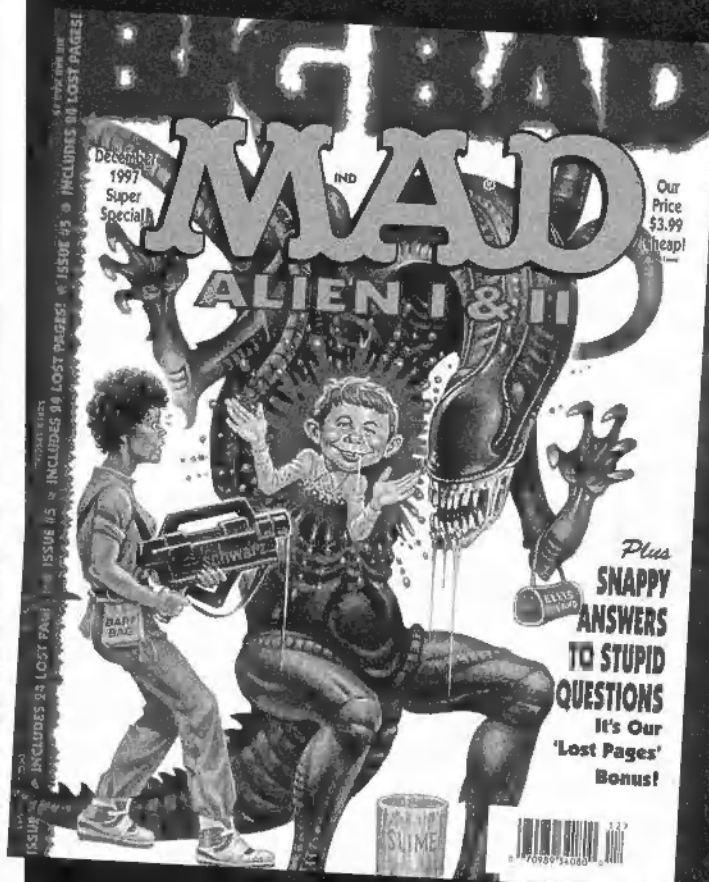
I have been a MAD fan ever since issue #340. I always read the letters page as soon as I get a new issue. After nearly two years of nothing better to do, I calculated a formula of how to get my letter published. The formula is as follows:

$$\frac{\text{Issue \#} + \text{nasty comment (nit-picking)}}{\text{hate-filled threat}} = \text{published letter!}$$

Tbdd Dooley
Oswego, IL

Here's another formula that you might be interested in, Pythagoras boy: If $n = \text{you}$, then $n = \text{Schmuck!}^{\text{TM}}$ Go figure! —Ed.

ON SPACE NO ONE CAN HEAR YOU LAUGH!



**Filled
with Side-
Splitting
Humor
and Gut-
Busting
Yuks!**

BURSTING OUT OF YOUR NEWSSTANDS NOW!



The handwriting is on the wall. NBC knows it's just a matter of time before the *Seinfeld* gang takes their millions and goes home. And when they do, there goes the network's lock on Thursday night. And when Thursday night goes, NBC's number one rating is sure to follow. Soon, stock in its parent company, General Electric, plummets. And when General Electric, which manufactures everything from light bulbs to nuclear weapons goes belly up, our country will be left dark and defenseless, vulnerable to hostile nations all over the world! We can only hope that somewhere, hidden in a vault in Burbank, some slimy TV exec has devised...

NBC's DESPERATE PLANS FOR *Seinfeld* SPINOFFS



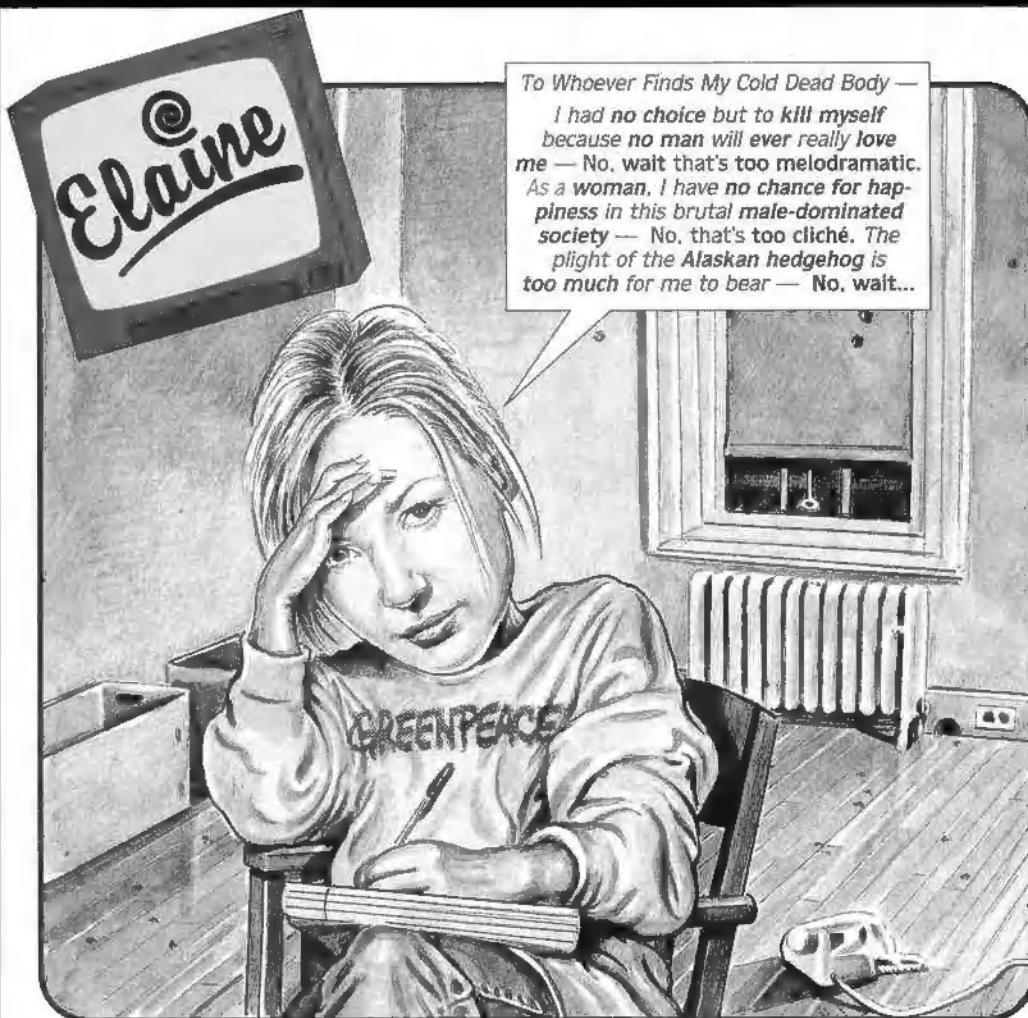
Wha'ssup
Mr. Costanza?

Yo, Mr. C!
You a hard-ass
brutha, but
you a'ight!

What the HELL does
that mean? You're
not trying to sell me
something, are you?



In this show, targeted at the hip, urban audience, George Costanza's father (Jerry Stiller), leaves his wife, moves to Los Angeles and takes a job teaching Korean at a rough South Central High School. At first, cultures clash when Mr. Costanza bans hip-hop music from the school dance in favor of Tony Bennett. But when he befriends the leader of the Crips (French Prince of Bel-Air's Alfonso Ribeiro), the kids learn that he's funky, fresh, phat, dope and down — even though he has no idea what that means!



ARTIST: DREW FRIEDMAN WRITERS: JOE RAIOLA & DAVID SHAYNE

With Julia Louis-Dreyfus demanding two million dollars an episode, plus a diamond-encrusted toilet in her dressing room, the Peacock Network makes a bold move and casts pop music sensation Jewel as the "new" Elaine Benes. To ensure that viewers will accept such a radically different looking Elaine, the show's catchy theme song tells the story of her gruesome car wreck, horrible disfigurement and successful reconstructive plastic surgery. Playing to Jewel's strengths, NBC also makes a few "minor changes" in her character. Due to the accident, the "new" Elaine is no longer witty, outgoing and fun to be with, but is now depressively needy, introspective and spends most of her time trying to perfect her suicide note.

The good news is Michael Richards is back as the voice of Kramer in this new cartoon series in the subversive tradition of *The Simpsons*. The bad news is that due to his exorbitant salary, NBC must cut costs by having the show produced by a third-rate animation studio in Qandahar, Afghanistan. Rounding out the cast are international "stars" Ezekiel Shabidar, Achmel Barahahaha and Wendy Klein.





Wayne Knight reprises his role as the conniving and rotund Newman in television's first post office drama! In the series' two-hour pilot episode, Newman becomes a member of the ZIP Squad, an elite band of hard-nosed Postal Inspectors dedicated to "eliminating those damn efficient bastards at FedEx and UPS at any cost!" Costarring Ed Asner as "The Chief" and rapper Ice-T as "Jimmy-J," Newman's street-smart homeboy informant.

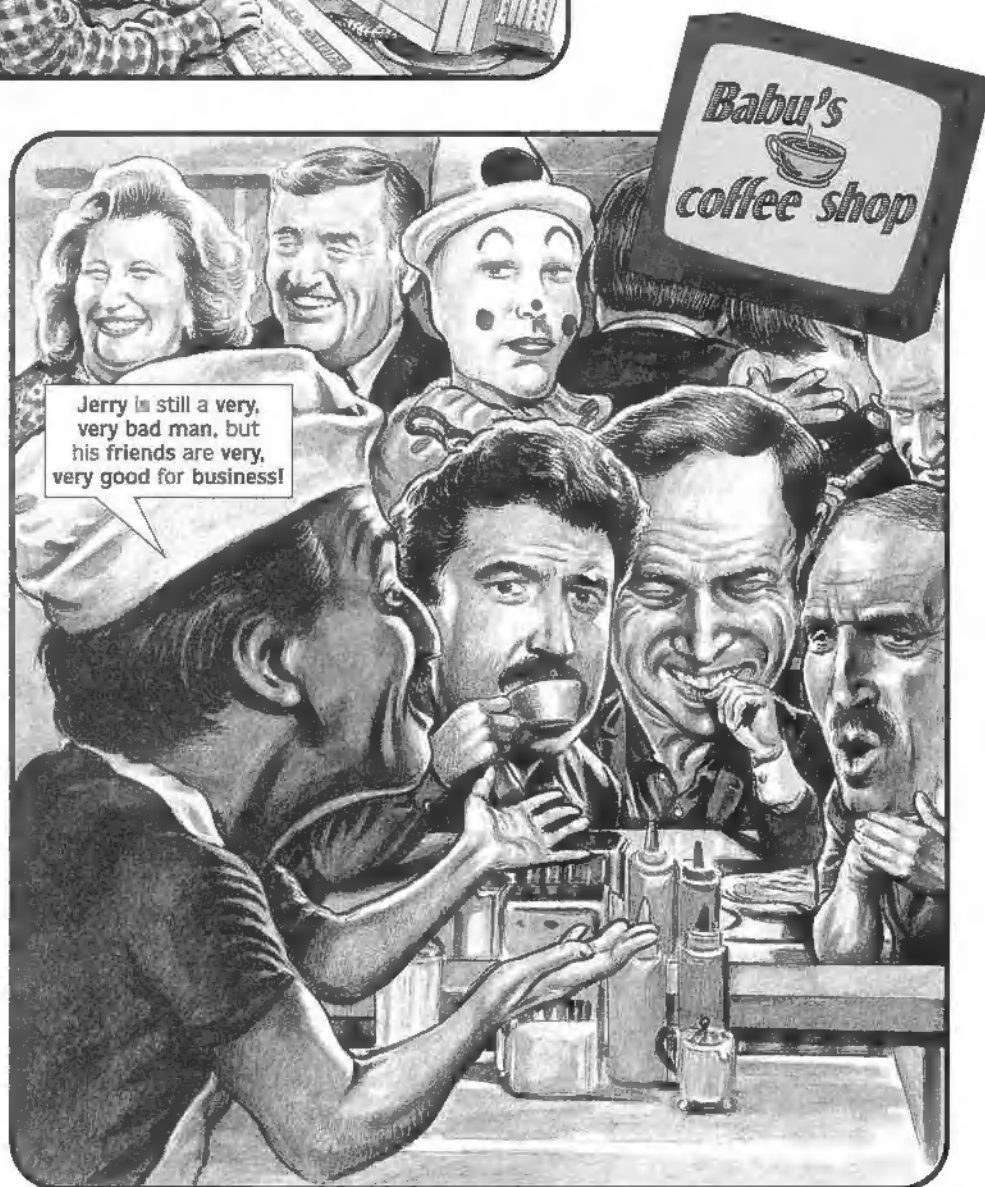
Seinfeld's most controversial guest character is back! In the pilot episode of this new sitcom, the obnoxious soup chef finally learns the terrible nickname everyone calls him behind his back — "The Soup Nazi." When his attempts to put an end to it fail, he decides to milk the Nazi label for everything it's worth! After studying up on the Third Reich and becoming an expert on the Fuhrer's favorite recipes, he changes the name of his shop to Heil Soup, and quadruples his already booming business by serving up Luftwaffe Lentil, Swastika Noodle Chowder and Gestapo Gazpacho.





With NBC desperate for a show — any show — with the name “Seinfeld” in the title, the producers of *Suddenly Susan* rename their struggling sitcom. While technically not a *Seinfeld* spin-off, *Suddenly Seinfeld* at least has a character named Seinfeld — Jerry’s third cousin and Susan’s new husband, Howard Seinfeld (Bronson Pinchot). Viewers never actually see or even hear Jerry, but he and his wacky friends are constantly mentioned.

For NBC it’s cheap and easy: Assemble all of *Seinfeld*’s recurring and one-shot characters and cram them into a leftover set from the original show. The legendary diner frequented by the old gang is bought out by Jerry’s hapless immigrant ex-buddy, Babu. Among the story lines: Crazy Joe Davola stalks Uncle Leo! Poppie convinces George Steinbrenner (back view only) to hire him as the Yankees manager! The Woman With Man Hands accidentally feels up The Woman With Fabulous Breasts (Teri Hatcher)! Mulva marries The Boy In The Bubble! Milos The Tennis Pro and The Drake play Yahtzee with Jerry’s parents! Comedian Kenny Bania and ex-big leaguer Keith Hernandez vie for the affection of The Woman Who Invented The Puffy Pirate Shirt! NBC also has plans for a “spin-off-spin-off” featuring every *Seinfeld* extra who ever had a non-speaking role or was seen briefly in the background.



MONROE & ...

At a certain point in life, parties stop being about cake, ice cream and a

I left you five dollars. Get yourself some Vienna sausages or something. Uncle Ray and I'll be back Sunday... or Monday... uh... whenever!

C'mon, let's blow baby!

Bye, mom. Bye, er... Uncle Ray.

Got enough Vienna sausage there?

Ummmm... yeah, I guess.



Guys, my mom's gonna kill me when she gets home.

Or we could just kill you now! Your choice!

You think maybe I can, you know, call up some of my friends maybe?

Forget it! Your friends suck it! You'll make some new pals tonight! You can start by crackin' open this lame-ass liquor cabinet!



You want me to smoke some?

Smoke some? Man, we ain't wasting any of this on you! You drink the bong water!

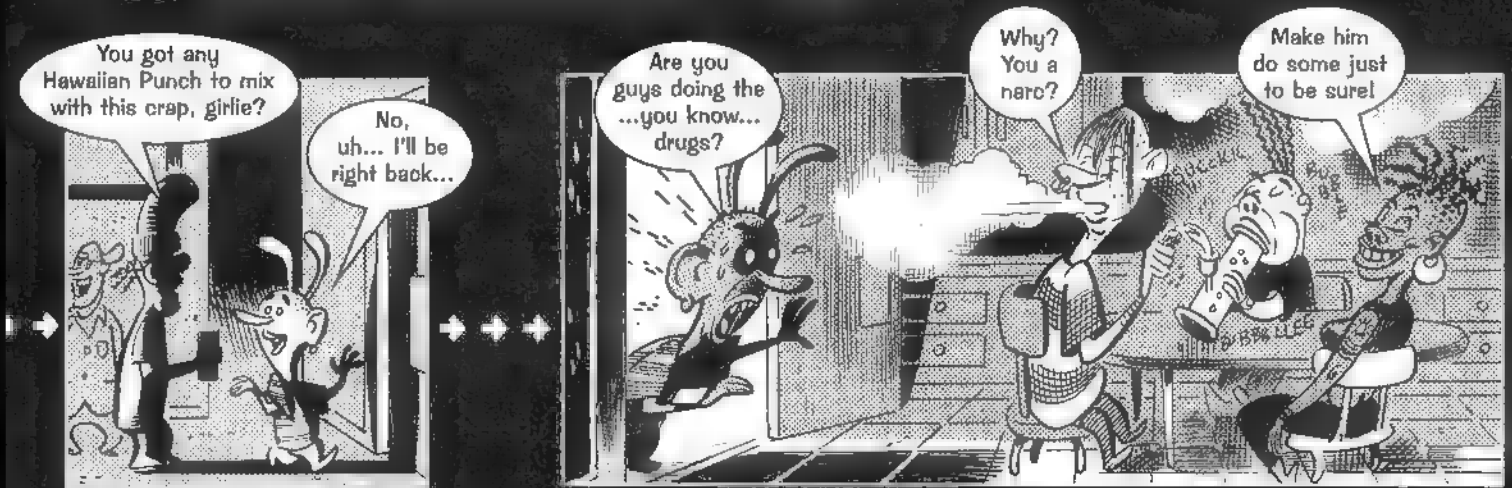
I really need to use the bathroom.

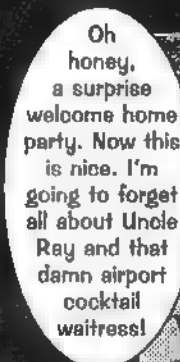
Oooh, I feel funny.



THE BIG PARTY

sad, rented clown - as your favorite buddy Monroe will soon find out!





At first glance, seemed like this movie had it all: big stars, big action and a really, really big plane. We were certain that if there was going to be one flick that shined like a beacon amidst the bleak, black void of crappy summer films, this was sure to be. Who would have guessed that the worst film of the summer would turn out to be the...

AIR FARCE ONE

DO YOU LIKE MOVIES ABOUT GLADIATORS?

I HATE SNAKES!

!

ACME METAL DETECTOR

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

SECURITY

LOOSE CHANGE

ACME BULLET-PROOF VEST

TICK-TICK

These guys look suspicious, who cleared them?

They went through three security checks! First, the FBI...

You mean the bureau guys who tried to frame Richard Jewell and who STILL don't have a clue about the Olympic bomber?

...then the CIA checked them...

The Intelligence people who had Soviet spy Aldrich Ames as one of their top agents for years?

...and finally, the Secret Service!

The bunch who let John Hinckley Jr. close enough to shoot President Reagan? I think this flight could be in A LOT of trouble!

This is a joint Russian/U.S. operation against your repressive, neo-fascist regime! General Radish, we're abducting you in the name of world peace!

How come when you kidnap one of us you're called "Heroes," but when you kidnap one of you're called "Terrorists?"

Hey, what are you aiming at with your night vision scope?

None of your business! You got your night vision, and I've got mine!

BLAM!
BLAM!

BOOM!
BOOM!

BLAM!

Tonight we're honoring United States President Marshmallow for taking such unprecedented chances for his cause! Not only did he have the fearlessness to send in troops to capture a world menace, he also had the nerve to charge \$500 a plate for this dinner, with proceeds going to his national campaign fund!

From now on, the United States will use its military might to pursue any leader who violates the freedom of his people!

Under his Presidency, the promise to promote human rights will become reality!

As compared to the Clinton Presidency, where the promise to promote human rights became a fantasy!

OBJECTS IN TELEPROMPTER ARE CLOSER THAN THEY APPEAR

In addition to the most efficient, up-to-date equipment of any plane in the world, Air Force One also has all the creature comforts of the finest deluxe hotel suite!

Wow! It must have cost a fortune!

It did! But that was no problem — the government got the money by cutting out expensive programs like school lunches and medical insurance for kids!

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Iraq seems to be acting up again! What should we do, sir?

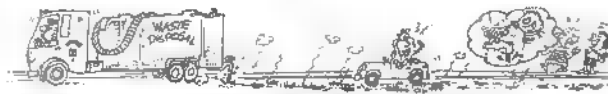
Send in the aircraft carrier Nimitz NOW!

Don't you think it's terrific the way he can make snap decisions like that?

Terrific? Snap decisions put the lives of our military at risk!

So? It's a small price to pay to avoid those boring, angst-ridden deliberate decisions!

NEWT GINGRICH DID NOT SIT HERE!

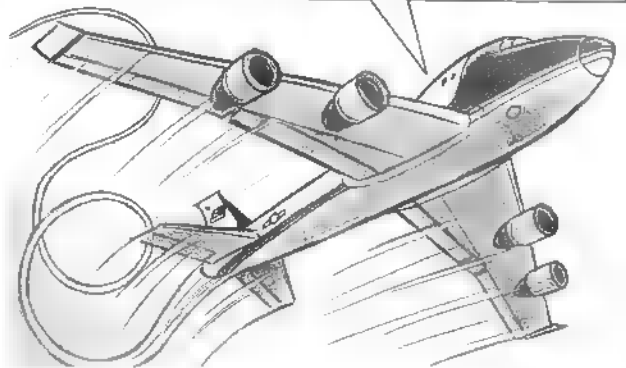


But you're a trusted Secret Service man! Why are you doing this?

You'll never know!
You'll take your secret to the grave?

What secret? My motive for betraying my government will never be explained in this entire movie! I don't know why either!

If you will direct your attention to the front of the cabin, we would like to review the safety features of this aircraft! In the pocket in front of you there's an instruction card along with your free, in-flight magazine and a duty-free shopping catalog! The movie for this flight will be *Passenger 57*, starring Wesley Snipes and terrorists similar to the ones occupying the seats next to you!



This is the escape pod! Inside is everything a president needs to survive!

Like Cheetos, Fritos, Beef Jerky and Twinkles — oops, wrong president!

Since no one but the Clintons has ever gone in, you might find missing records from the Rose Law Firm and the "non-existent" Whitewater documents in there!

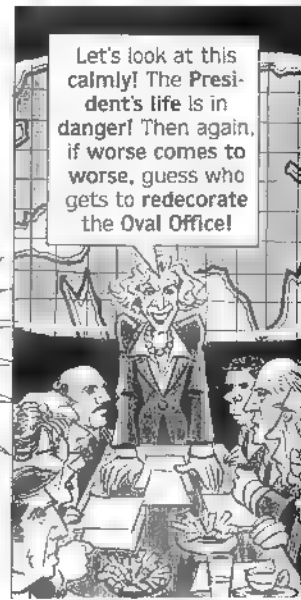
Like what?

And what else?



This is Vice President Bendit! I want to know how those terrorists got aboard the most secure plane in the world!

Refer to your Presidential Rate Card! Right after the item, "Sleep in the Lincoln Bedroom, \$40,000," is the entry, "Fly on Air Farce One, \$50,000!"



Let's look at this calmly! The President's life is in danger! Then again, if worse comes to worse, guess who gets to redecorate the Oval Office!



We must land this plane now!

We can't! I haven't collected the cupps, the tray tables aren't up and locked and the seat backs aren't in their forward position!

BANG!



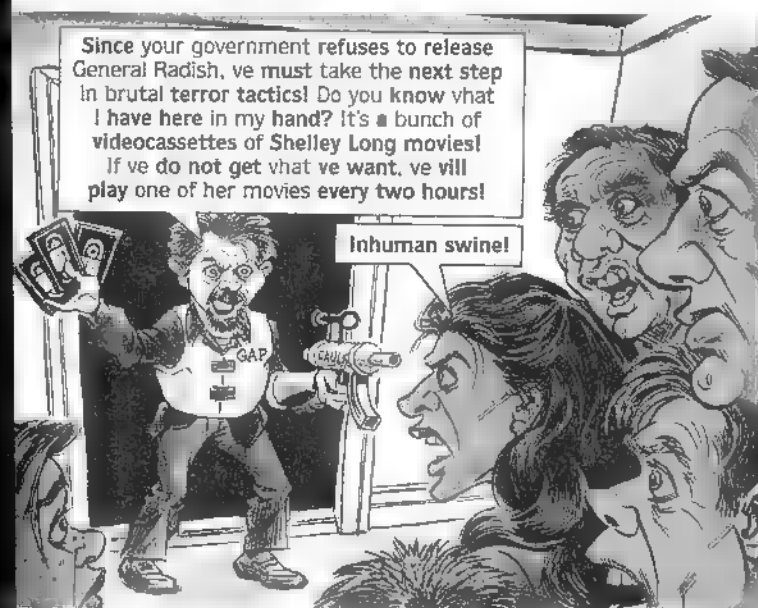
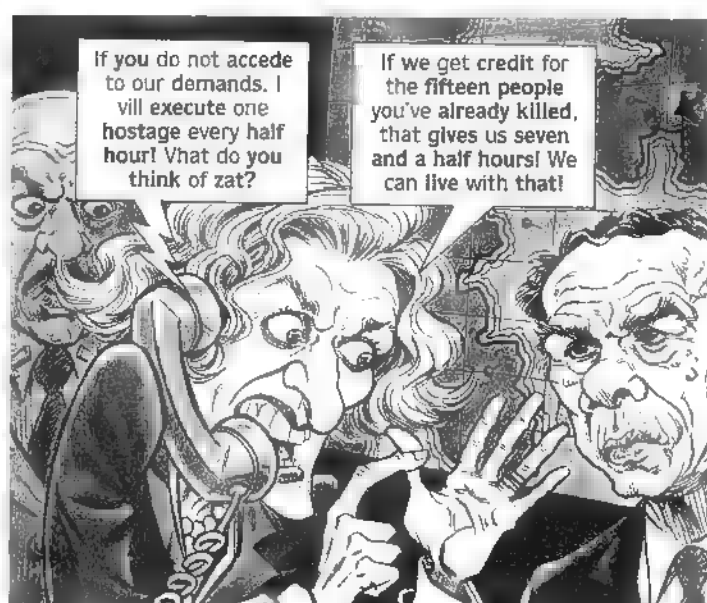
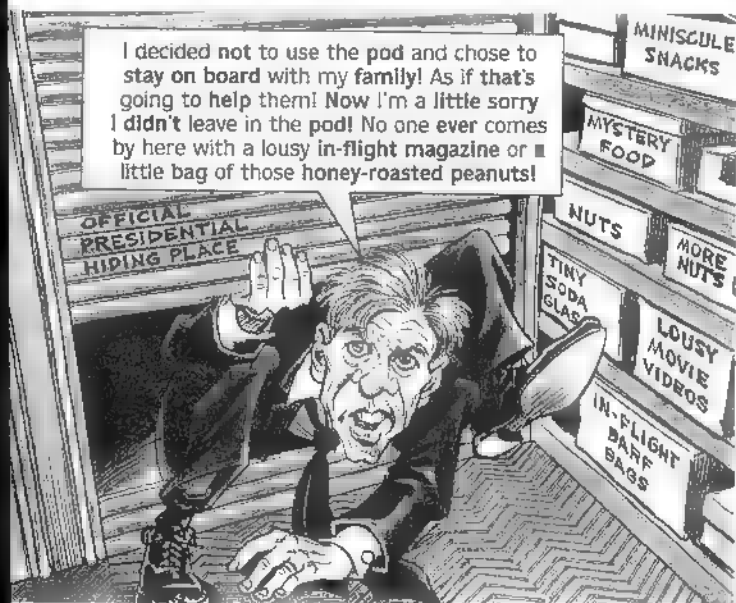
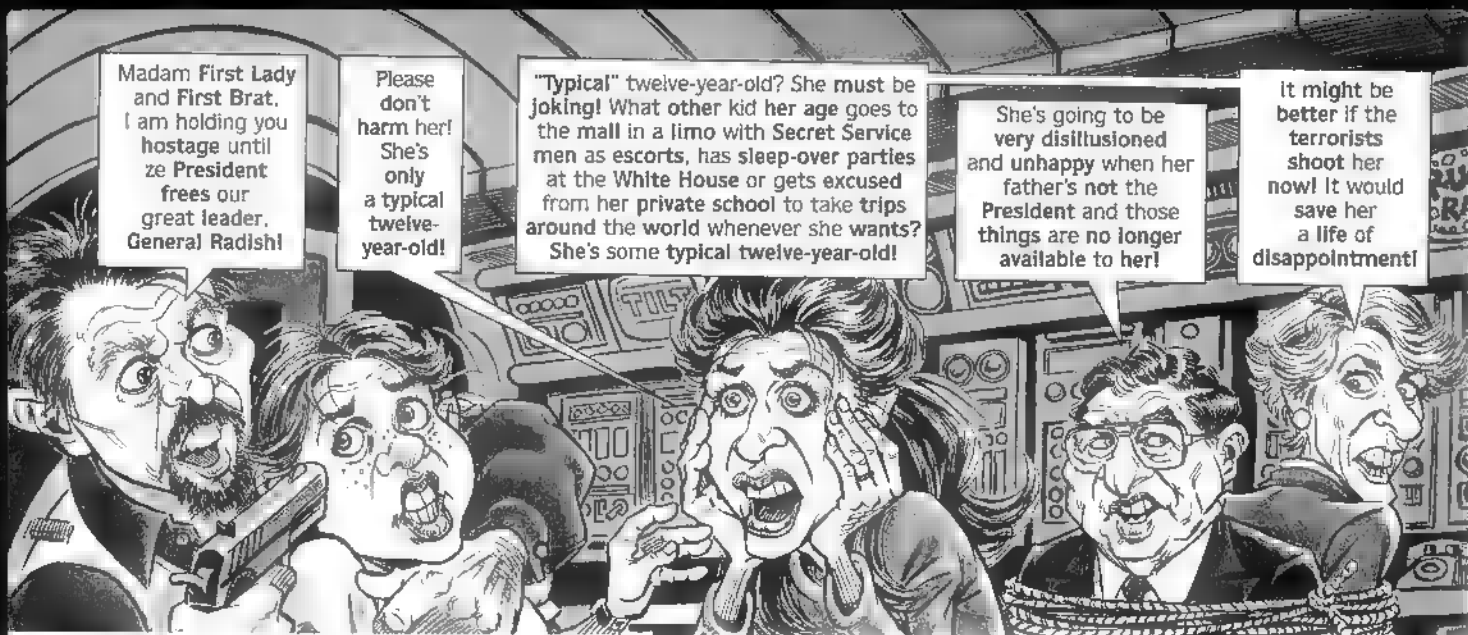
Hang on! We're going back up!

This is horrible!

Stop bitching! Think about all the extra frequent flyer miles you're earning!

Going back up? Damn it! I'll have to serve beverages and a light snack all over again...

DO NOT TALK TO PILOT WHILE THE PLANE IS IN MOTION





Hello, White House?
This is the
President! I'm calling
you on a cellular
phone from Air Farce
One! We're being
hijacked over the
Caucasus Mountains!

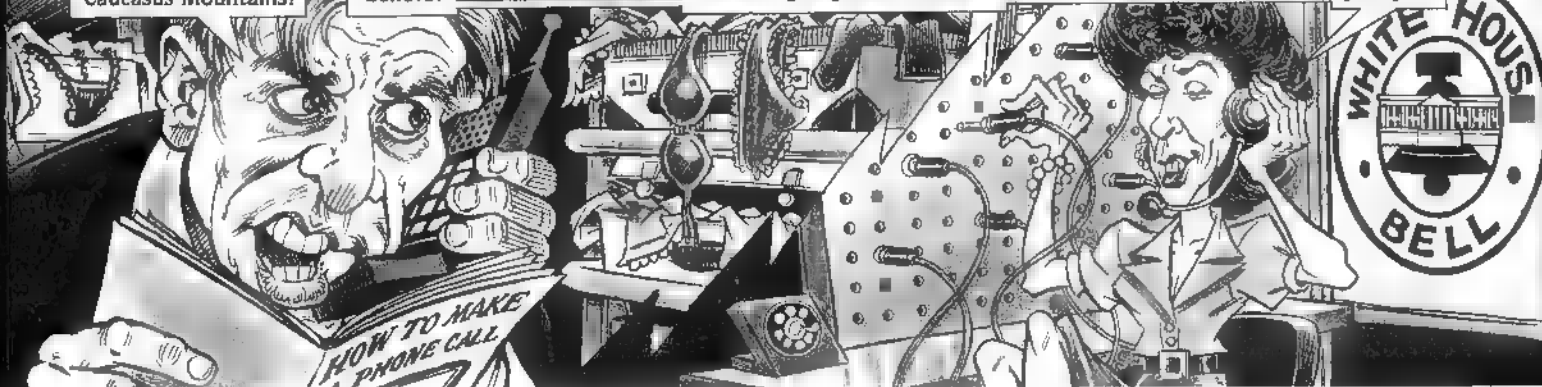
I
just
find
that
a little
hard to
believe!

I'm telling
you that
I'm the
President!
You've
got to
believe me!

Oh, I can believe that you're
the President! I just can't
believe that a cellular phone
has a range of 8,000 miles!
Mine stops working when I'm
only three blocks away, not to
mention going into a tunnel!

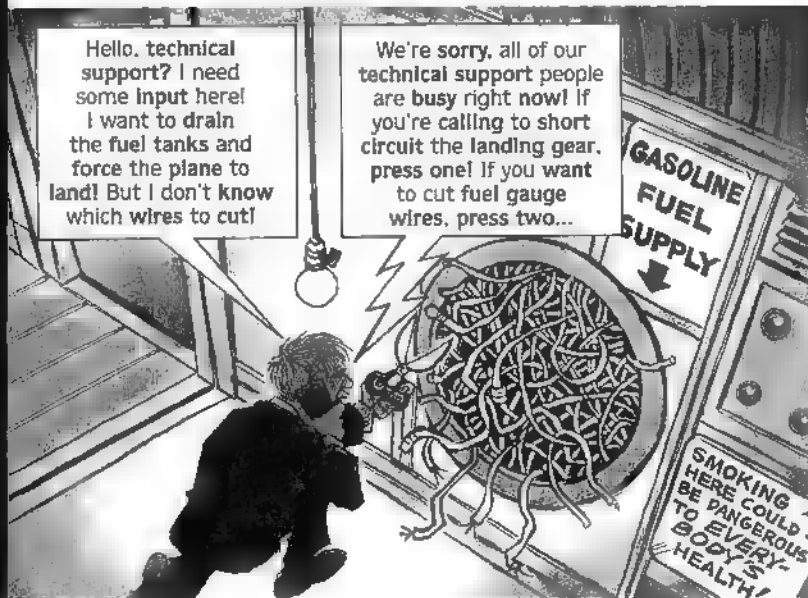
Miss,
please
connect
me to the
Vice
President!

Why
should
she help
you?
She's
already
got
your job!



Hello, technical
support? I need
some input here!
I want to drain
the fuel tanks and
force the plane to
land! But I don't know
which wires to cut!

We're sorry, all of our
technical support people
are busy right now! If
you're calling to short
circuit the landing gear,
press one! If you want
to cut fuel gauge
wires, press two...



Mr.
President,
you're
alive!
It's a
miracle!

Not as much of a miracle
as what you've all done —
staying in this room for
hours without anyone ever
going to the toilet!
At least I had the pod!



Thank you
for flying
Air Farce One!
Buh-bye,
buh-bye,
buh-bye,
buh-bye...



You have
choice!
Release
ze general
or I vll
shoot
daughter!

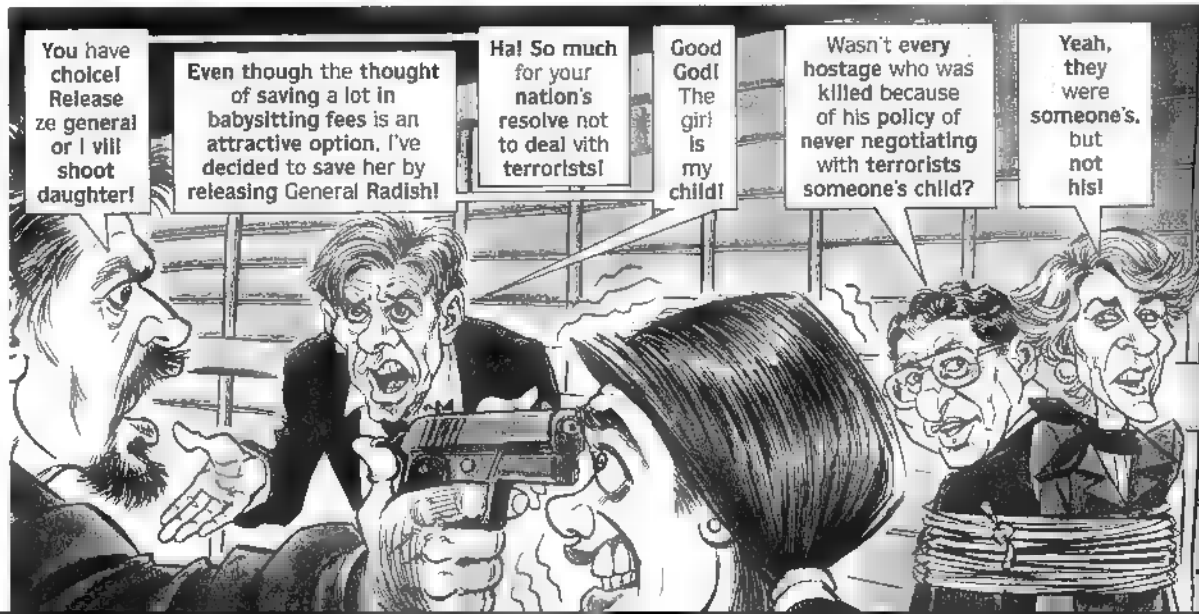
Even though the thought
of saving a lot in
babysitting fees is an
attractive option, I've
decided to save her by
releasing General Radish!

Ha! So much
for your
nation's
resolve not
to deal with
terrorists!

Good
God!
The
girl
is
my
child!

Wasn't every
hostage who was
killed because
of his policy of
never negotiating
with terrorists
someone's child?

Yeah,
they
were
someone's,
but
not
his!



Get off my plane!
As a fanatic,
your moral code
is shameful! As
an actor, your
Russian accent
is even worse!

I
wish
he
hadn't
just
done
that!

But
he
saved
us from
certain
death!

That may be!
But couldn't
he have waited
until I
collected the
passenger's
headset first?



If, as last summer's
blockbuster President
of the United States,
I could fly a jet to
safety and save the
free world on Inde-
pendence Day, you
can do it this year!

Thanks for the vote of
confidence, but we still
have at least three more
unbelievable crises
to go before this movie
is over, not that
you'd understand...

Roswell,
aliens
and
Will
Smith
weren't unbelieve-
able?



Sir, you
must
leave now,
we're
going
down!

Only after my
daughter, then
my wife and then
my wounded
Chief of Staff go!

But
why
don't
you go
first?

Because as
a Republican
cost-cutting
measure,
I'm on
standby!



It was me, your
"loyal" bodyguard
who was in
cahoots with the
terrorists!

That
I
could
betray
my
own
country?

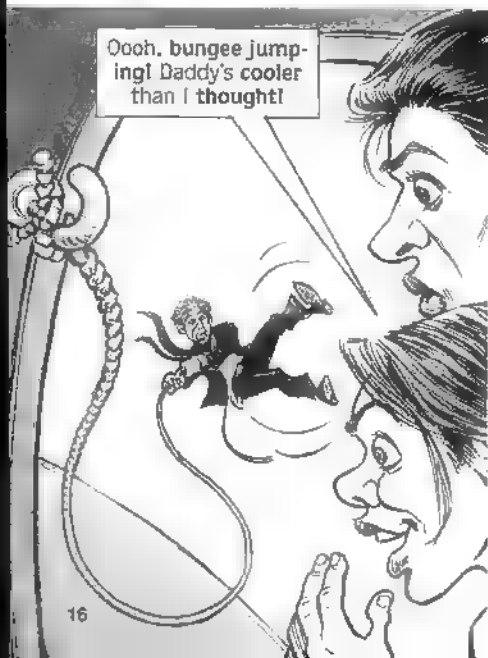
No! That since all
the terrorists are
dead and there's
no one left to
expose you, why
you revealed your-
self as the traitor!

By this time
you want
LOGICAL
explanations?
I'm sorry
I voted for
you! You're
a schmuck!

I don't
understand it!



Oooh, bungee jump-
ing! Daddy's cooler
than I thought!



The good news is
that the Rescue
Plane has just landed...

...the bad news is that the
President has just landed
again...again...and again!





AN EMBARRASSMENT OF RICHARD'S DEPT.

Americans are getting dumber with every generation. SAT scores are down. Fewer serious books are being published and, hell, if it weren't for the comic strip Nancy, nobody would be opening up a newspaper! But maybe there is no greater proof of just how far we've fallen in the intellectual department than the big increase in "helpful" instructions manufacturers feel compelled to put on their products. Not only do they now tell you to cut on the dotted line, they have to include a little picture of scissors! And don't you just love the envelopes that say, "Use a stamp. The Post Office will not deliver without postage"? Duh! And we fear all of this is just the beginning. How long will it be, brainiac, before you see these...

PRODUCT INSTRUCTIONS FOR A DUMBED-DOWN AMERICA

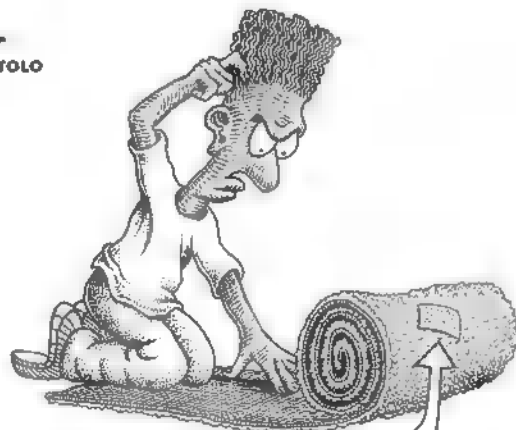
ARTIST: MONTE WOLVERTON

WRITER: DICK DEBARTOLO



Slice Open Before Eating.

For Optimum Results, Use
This Product in the "Open"
Position During Rainfall.



Install Carpet with
Fuzzy Part Facing Up.

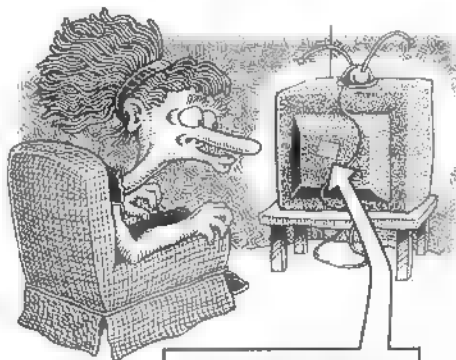


For Best Results,
Inflate Doll Before Use.

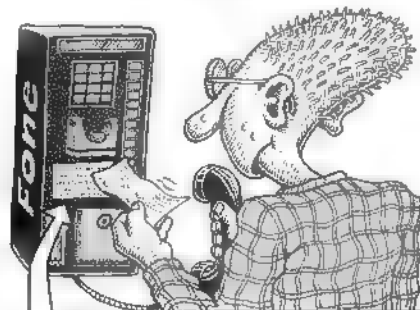
Foot Bath Works Best if Shoes
and Socks are Removed
Before Soaking Feet.



Place One Glove on Each Hand,
One Finger in Each Opening.



To View Image,
Look at Screen
Side of Console.



Cash or Credit Card Only.
No Personal Checks Accepted.



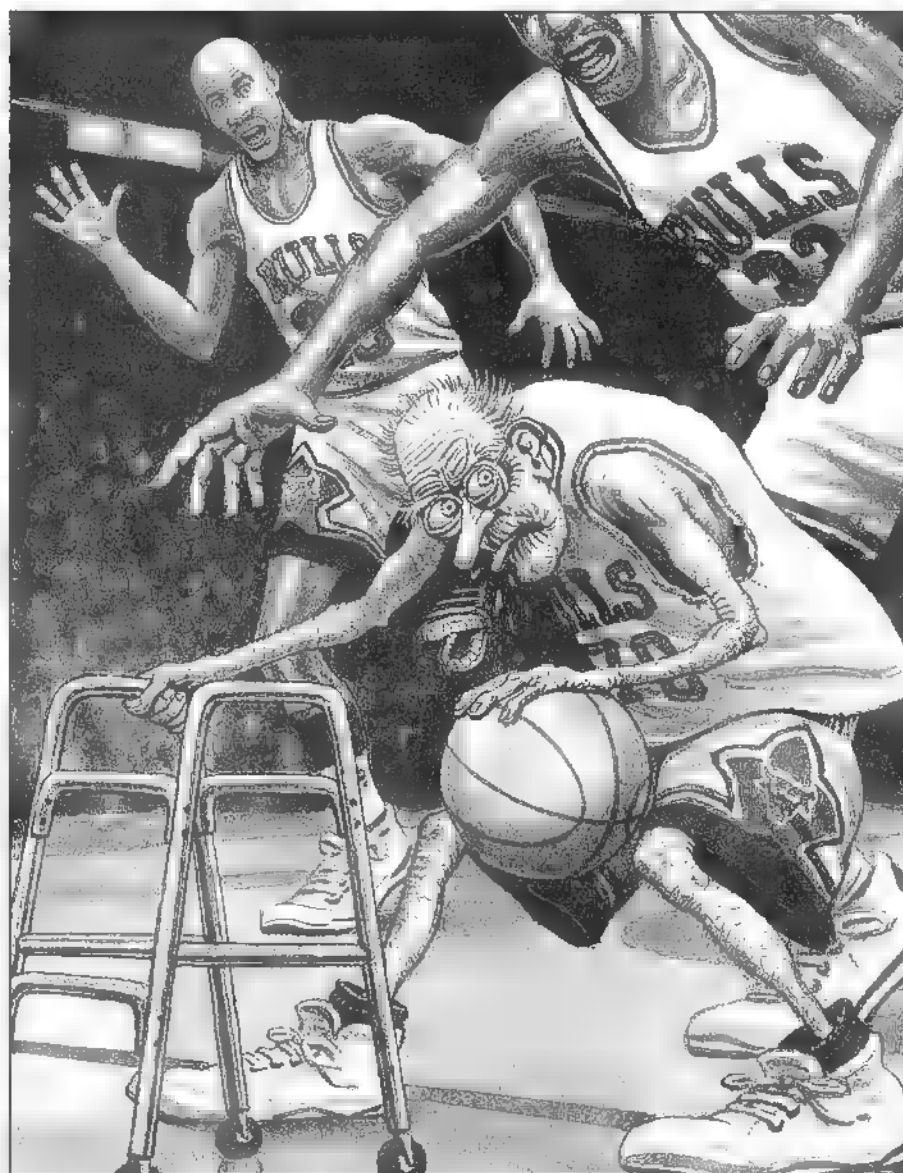
Notice to Readers: You Have Finished Reading This Article.
Turn This Page in Either Direction if You Wish to Read Something Else.



In the past decade, anti-discrimination cases dealing with race and sex have dramatically changed the v

NEWSPAPER STORIES FUTURE ANTI-DISCR

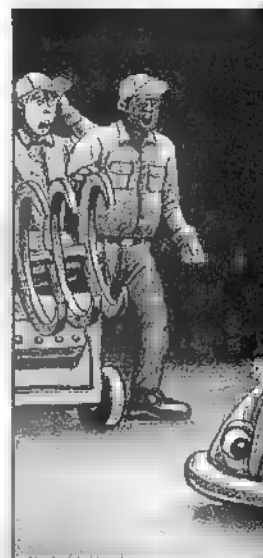
80-YEAR-OLD GUARD TO START TONIGHT FOR THE BULLS



CHICAGO, IL, Oct. 10 — After proving in the Supreme Court that the Chicago Bulls basketball team practiced age discrimination by not allowing him to play on their team, 80-year-old Fred Denby will finally get to prove himself on the NBA court.

"My job tonight is to prevent a fast break," said an excited Denby, "and I know I can do it because I'm never going to leave the backcourt and run to the offensive boards. If I did that, I might get a heart attack." The spirited octogenarian added, "All I need is my sneakers, my jock strap and my Depends and I'll give 110%."

A bemused Scottie Pippen said he expected Coach Phil Jackson



FRED DENBY WARMING UP FOR HIS NBA DEBUT TONIGHT WITH MICHAEL JORDAN AND COMPANY.

CLOWNS S
T

ay Americans live and act. What is in store for us in the next decade? Could the future look like this...?

YOU MAY SEE AFTER ANNIHILATION LAWSUITS

MARBLE-MOUTHED ANNOUNCER BLAMED FOR RIOT AT KENTUCKY DERBY



Scene at the payout window at Churchill Downs yesterday. The number four horse, "Lucky Dan," was the only winner. Many confused bettors thought otherwise.

CHURCHILL DOWNS, Kentucky, May 10 (Reuters) — Over one hundred racing fans received minor injuries yesterday when hyper-excited bettors stormed the payout windows immediately following the running of the Kentucky Derby. Virtually all of the fans thought they heard their horse announced ■ the winner of the prestigious race.

The head of the Kentucky National Guard stated today that the cause of the riot has been traced to track announcer Johnny Blodgett. Blodgett, who suf-

fers from a severe speech impediment had only recently been hired to announce the races after the track lost a lawsuit seeking to bar Blodgett from the job due to his handicap.

"No one can understand the guy," one track official, who requested anonymity remarked. "But the law of the land said we couldn't discriminate against anyone for a physical defect. So when Blodgett applied, we had no choice but to give him the job. It was a time bomb waiting to happen and it happened yesterday."



SUFFOCATING IN THEIR TINY CAR WHILE TRYING TO GET OUT. JAWS OF LIFE ARRIVED TOO LATE TO SAVE THEM.

CIRCUS TRAGEDY KILLS 50 LITTLE PEOPLE POLICE BLAME 250 LB. "MIDGET"

SANDUSKY, Ohio, Nov. 1 (AP) — Fifty midget circus clowns suffocated to death during ■ performance last night when the door of their tiny clown car was blocked by a 250-pound so-called midget performer.

Circus authorities identified the overweight clown as John Jakes, aka Jolly Joe. Jakes had just joined the circus after a landmark court decision against weight and height discrimination that stated he could not be denied ■ job with little people because of his massive size.

"Yeah, the whole thing could have been avoided," claimed an unidentified sideshow geek who witnessed the tragedy, "had that fat freak not insisted on being the first one out of the car."

Ambulances rushed to the scene

ARTIST: JAMES WARHOLA
WRITER: STAN HART



GROSS INCOMPETENCE DELAYS ROCKET LAUNCHING

Bumbling Technician has Trouble with Countdown

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla., July 17 — The launching of the space shuttle Atlantis was postponed indefinitely yesterday after a bewildered NASA technician had trouble counting down backwards from 10.

Randy Grooms, a NASA space program specialist, has been blamed for the delay in the current space mission. Grooms joined NASA after a federal appeals court found in his favor in an I.Q. discrimination suit that ruled no one can be denied employment because of intelligence.

"Since he has difficulty in doing the countdown, the mission has been put on hold," said an exasperated NASA spokesman. But a defiant Grooms defended his actions. "I can count to 10, the right



Rookie technician Randy Grooms, counting down for the space shuttle launch. A NASA spokesman said that the launch has been delayed due to "unforeseen problems."

way. Like starting at one and going up to 10. But they want me to start at 10 and go back to one. That confuses me. I know what comes after five, but I'm not sure what comes before it. And I'm not going to take

a chance with the lives of our astronauts until I'm damn sure."

Former astronaut turned senator, John Glenn, issued a statement blasting the court's

DEAD PERSON WINS JOB BACK IN LANDMARK DECISION

ACLU Applauds Decision as "A Victory for the Non-Living."

NEW YORK CITY, NY Dec. 15 — In the first "death discrimination" case in the nation, the late Mrs. Ivy Bromide won her old job back, even though she has been deceased for two months.

In a close split decision, the Supreme Court ruled today that just because someone is no longer alive, that person should

not be penalized. "Death," said Justice Clarence Thomas in his majority opinion, "is hard enough without penalizing the person any further."

Justice Thomas also noted that inasmuch as Mrs. Bromide had been an assistant principal of New York City high school, efficiency was not an issue since

being dead doesn't seem to make any difference in the performance of that particular job.

Reaction to the controversial decision was swift with Right-to-Lifers issuing a terse statement in which they declared that they would

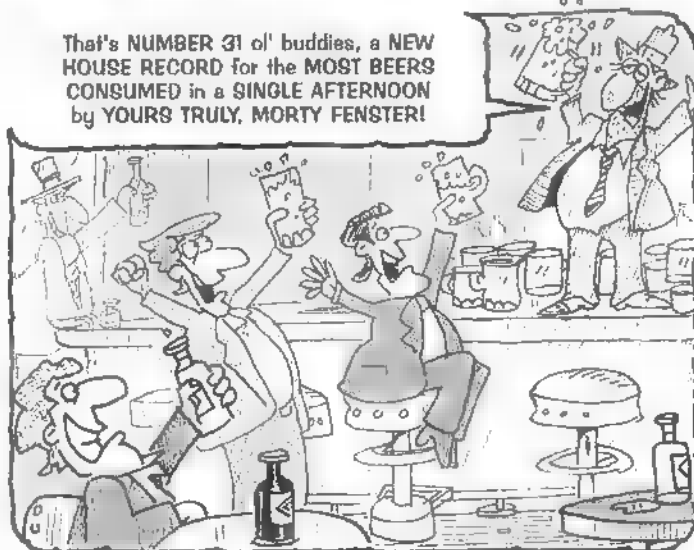


Mrs. Ivy Bromide, back at her desk at Stuyvesant High. She replaces Ms. Millicent Mueller who had taken the assistant principal's job after Mrs. Bromide's recent death.

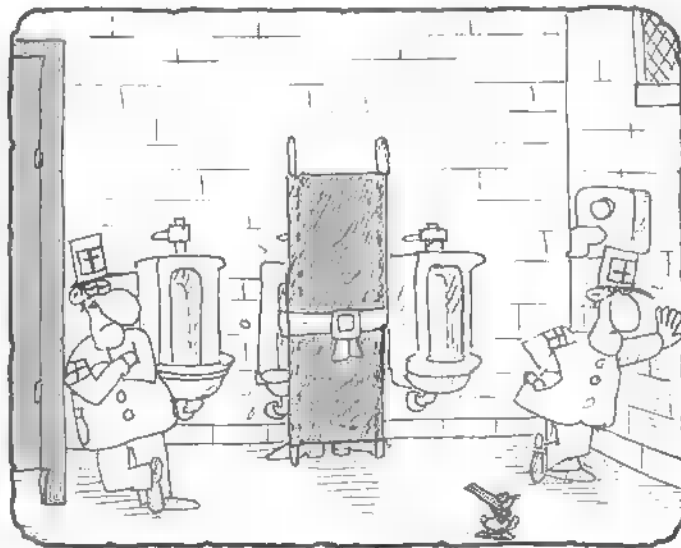
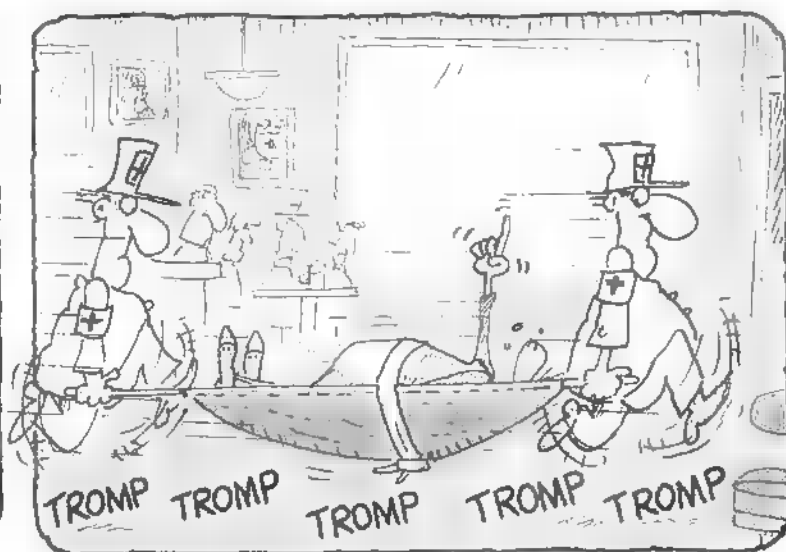
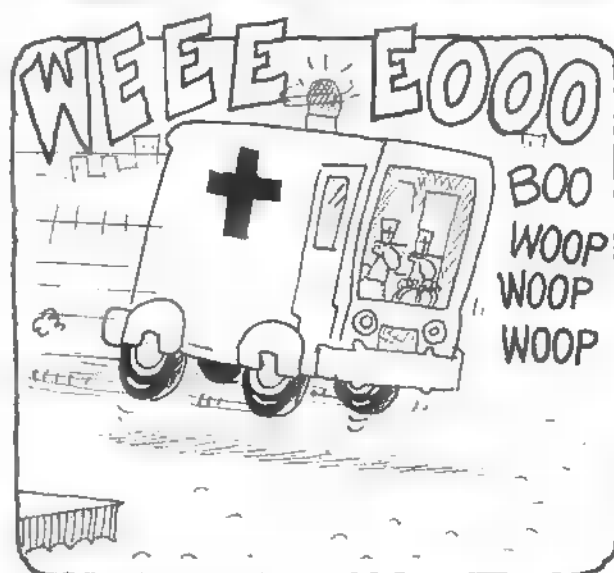
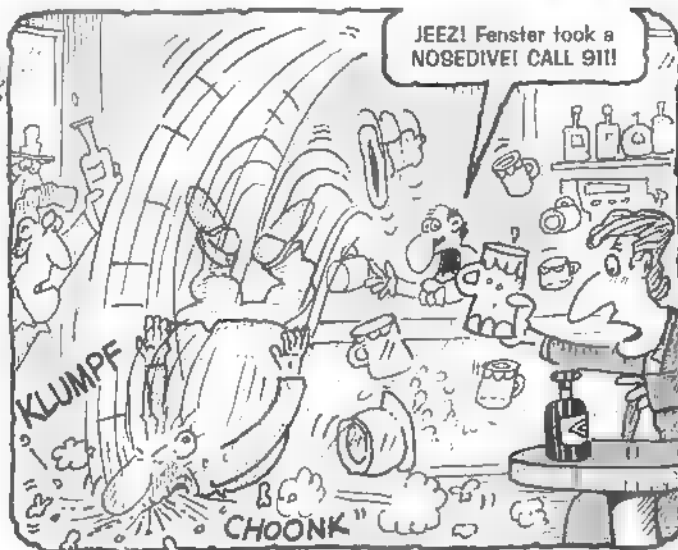


TALES FROM THE DUCK SIDE THE BEER HUNTER

That's NUMBER 31 ol' buddies, a NEW HOUSE RECORD for the MOST BEERS CONSUMED in a SINGLE AFTERNOON by YOURS TRULY, MORTY FENSTER!



JEEZ! Fenster took a NOSEDIVE! CALL 911!





ROCKET FULL OF MIRACLES DEPT.

In the summer of 1997 the whole world was abuzz when an exploratory craft landed on Martian soil and began sending data back to Earth. But for the average person without an advanced degree in astronomy, it was difficult to understand what all this information meant. Since all us here at MAD happen to have advanced degrees in astronomy, we thought we would help out all you ignorant laymen by explaining these

IMPORTANT LESSON MARS



The Pathfinder mission took 9,669 pictures of Mars in 30 days, or about half as many pictures as tabloid photographers took of John Kennedy in the same period.



The unusually high concentration of silicon found in Martian rocks is seen nowhere on Earth except on Sunset Blvd. in Los Angeles.



The Martian surface is the exact shade red that Dennis Rodman's hair was when he kicked that reporter in the 'nads.



Since the Sojourner is operated on an Intel microchip, NASA engineers spend the vast majority of their workday on hold with tech support.



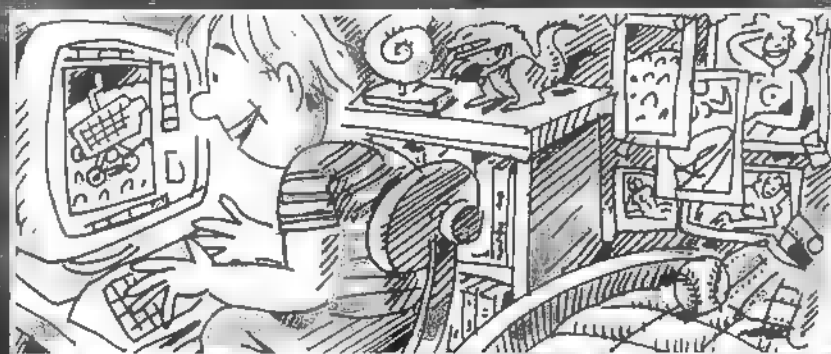
The Sojourner travels at a top speed of 120 feet-per-hour, meaning it goes twice as fast as the average vehicle leaving a stadium parking lot after an NFL game.

NS LEARNED FROM THE PATHFINDER MISSION

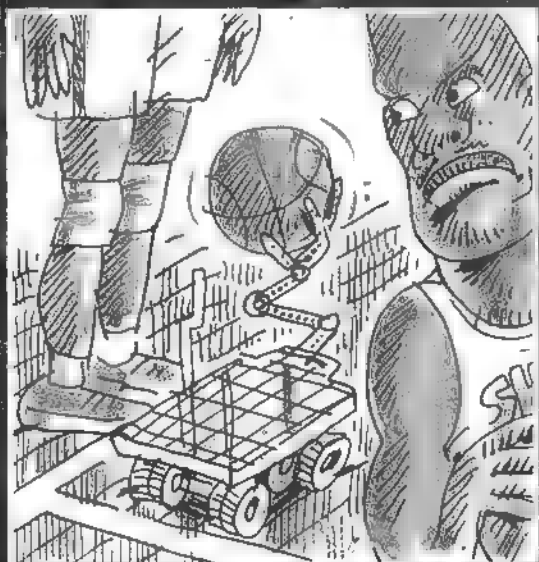
ARTIST: TOM HACHTMAN WRITER: ANDREW J. SCHWARTZBERG



With rocks named Yogi, Casper and Scooby-Doo, it would appear NASA scientists spend a lot more time watching the Cartoon Network than their computer screens.



The day after Pathfinder landed, its web site got millions of hits, proving that not everyone on the net is there to just look for nude photos of Drew Barrymore, Gillian Anderson and Alyssa Milano.



NASA spent about as much money on the Pathfinder mission as the Lakers did on Shaquille O'Neal, however the rover can shoot free throws with a much higher degree of accuracy than Shaq ever will.



Though scientists know that oceans existed on Mars millions of years ago, the rover's continuing search for a fossilized lifeguard chair has so far proved fruitless.



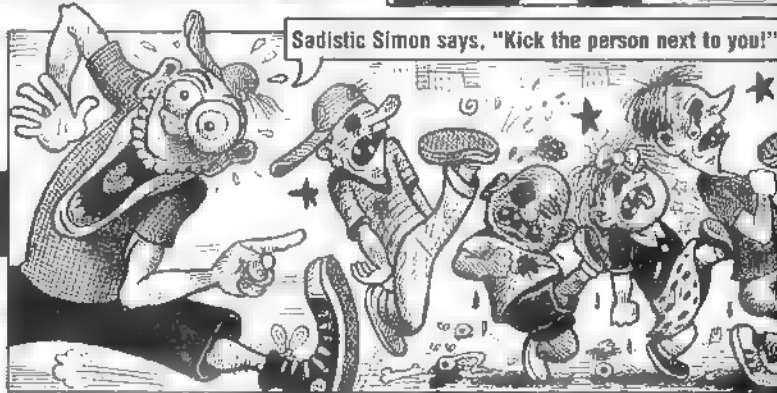
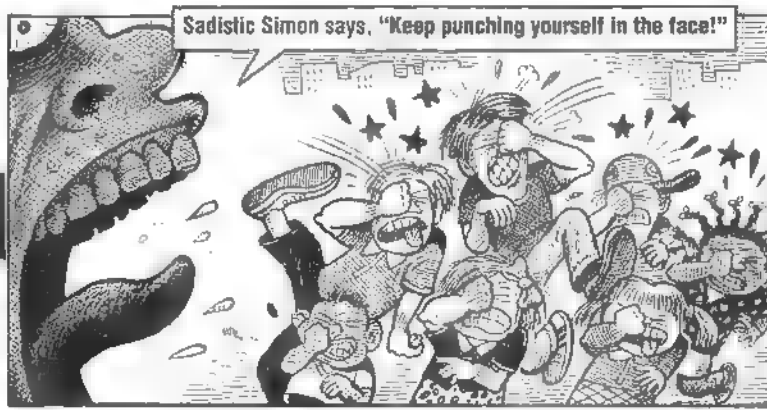
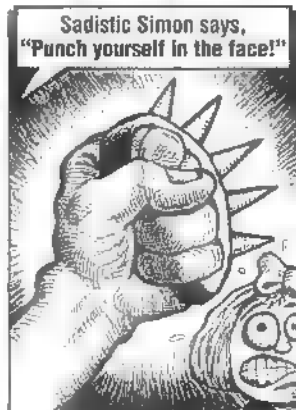
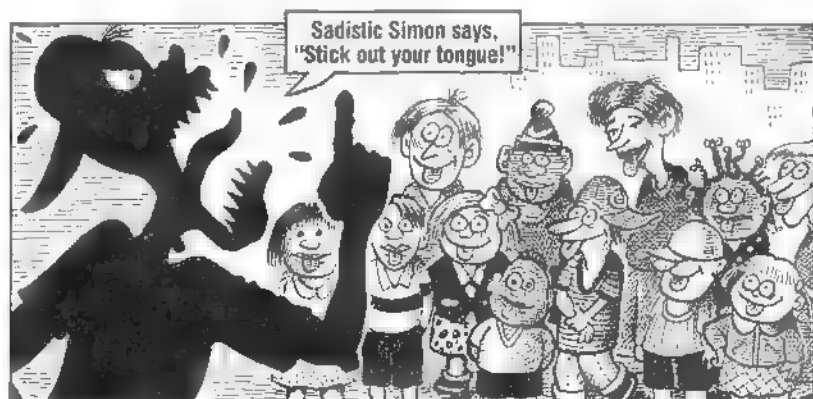
It is faster to get pictures developed on a planet 200 million miles away than it is at your local drug store.



NO PAIN, NO GAME DEPT.

THE MAD REPERTORY PLAYERS

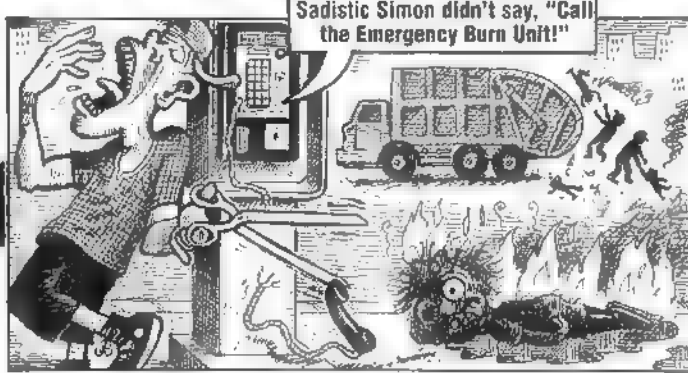
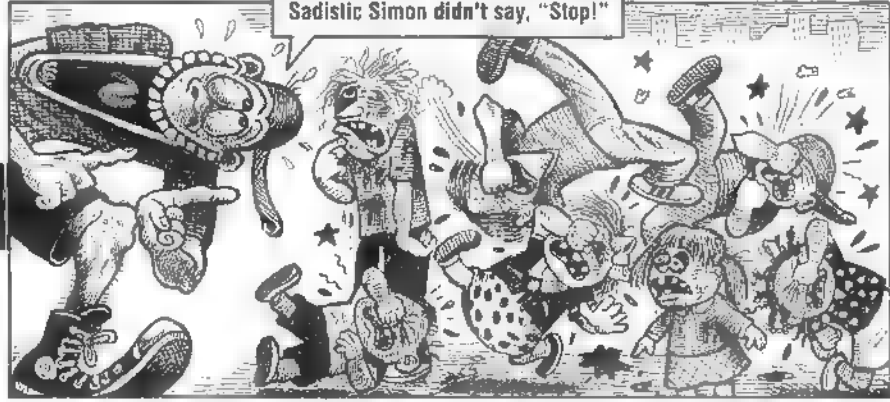
This Issue's SADISTIC



PRESENT MAD-STERPIECE THEATER

Production:

SIMON SAYS"



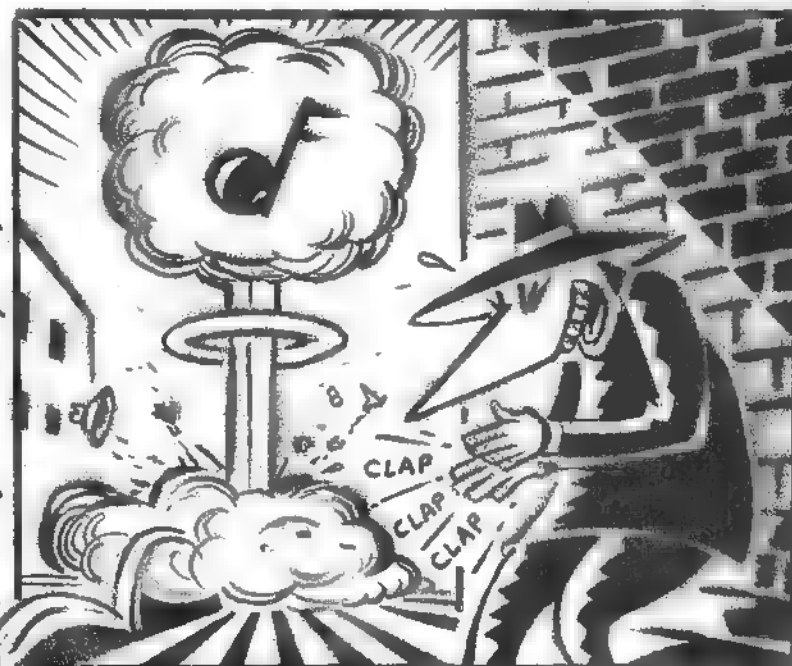
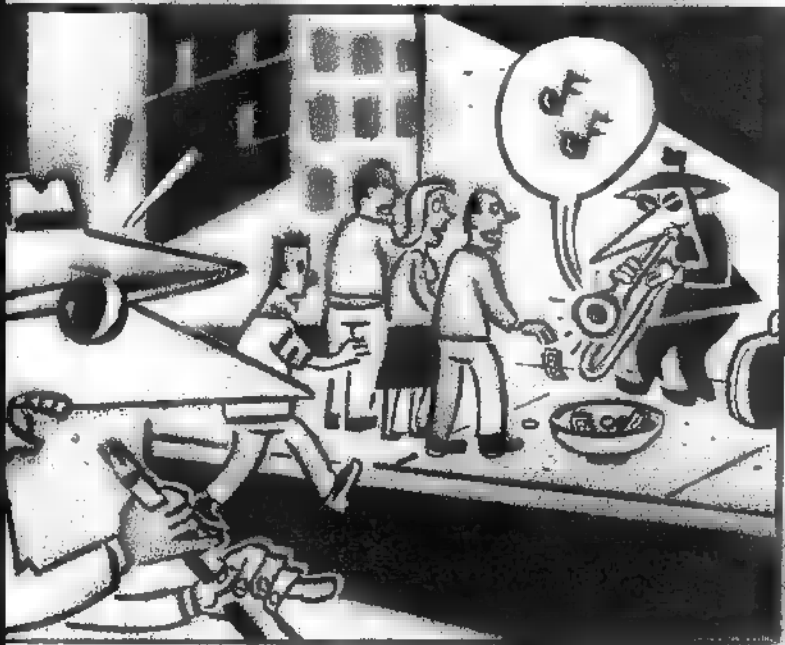
ARTIST: TOM BUNK

WRITER: BUTCH D'AMBROSIO



SPY VS SPY



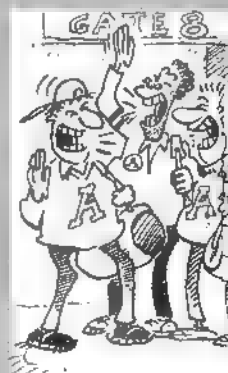
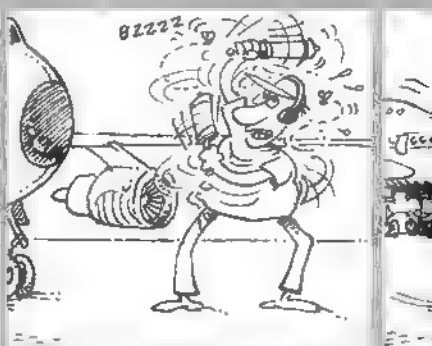
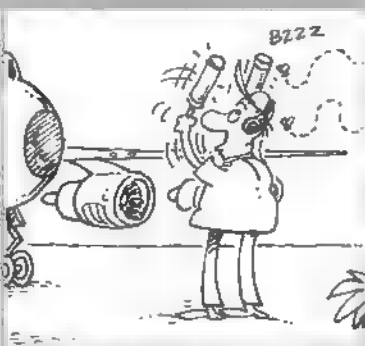
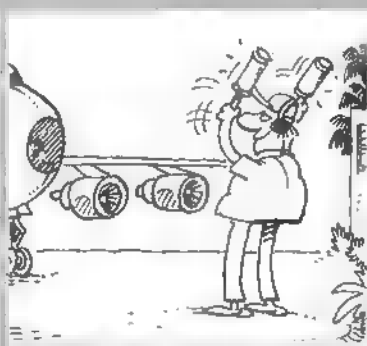


KUPER



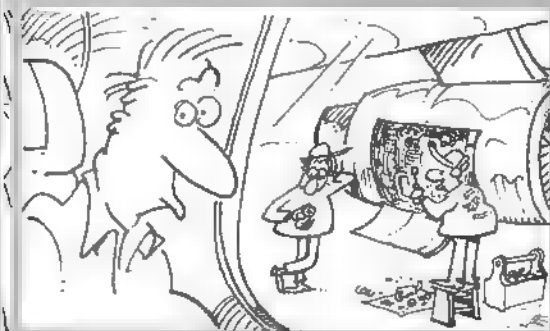
SERGE-IN GENERAL DEPT.

A MAD LOOK AT



AIRPORTS

ARTIST AND WRITER: SERGIO ARAGONES







BERG'S-EYE VIEW DEPT.

THE LIGHTER SIDE



CRIME

Your list of convictions is deplorable! What started you on this criminal way of life?

I didn't have any choice, Your Honor! There was never anything good to watch on television!



ARTIST AND WRITER: DAVE BERG

GOLF

Oh my God! Sid passed out from the heat!

Is there a doctor anywhere on the course?

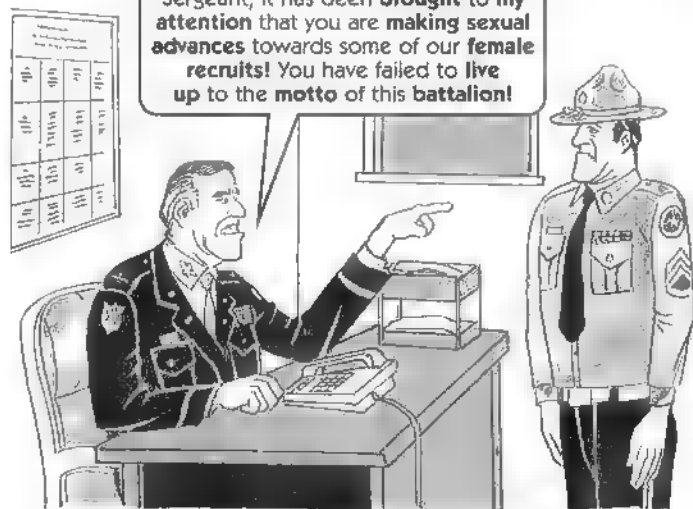


Here! I'm a doctor!



HARASSMENT

Sergeant, it has been brought to my attention that you are making sexual advances towards some of our female recruits! You have failed to live up to the motto of this battalion!



"Make war, not love!"



COMMUNICATION



SLEEP



DRIVING



THERAPY



LISTENING PLEASURES



WILL POWER



FITNESS



You think THIS is bad?



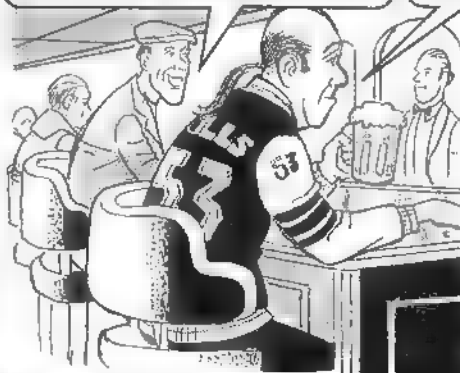
RES

RELATIONSHIPS



Phil, do you know what it means to come home to a loving wife who greets you with a kiss, a home-cooked meal waiting on the table and kids who do well in school and aren't involved with drugs or booze?

Sure I know what it means!



It means I'm in the wrong @\$\$%^&-ing house!



THE OFFICE



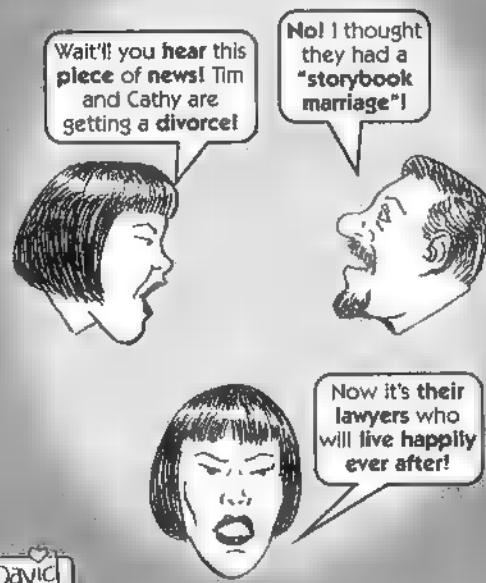
HIGH TECH



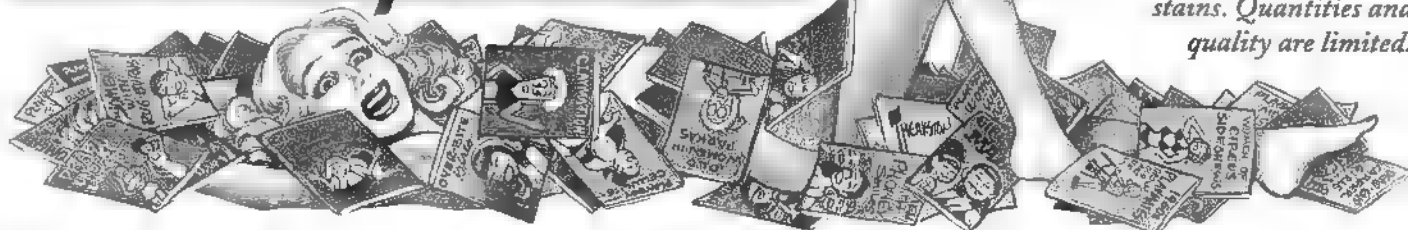
DOCTORS



CONTENTMENT



PLAYBOY NEWSSTAND *spectacles*



Too mediocre to miss! You don't have to miss old issues of Playboy's Newsstand Spectacles. From Playboy's sultry Girls with Facial Hair, to the racy Book of Lingerie No Girlfriend of Yours Will Ever Wear, each issue is filled with outtake photos of women who aren't attractive enough to be real Playmates! All copies are from warehouse stock and never before sold because of minor defects, such as missing pages and unidentified stains. Quantities and quality are limited!

ITEM #	DATE	TITLE	PRICE*
T&A6969	May/1992	Girls of Summer in Heavy Fur Coats and Thermal Underwear	\$20
T&A9696	June/1992	The Girls of Daylight Savings Time	\$22
T&A6666	July/1992	Girls Wearing Stupid Hats	\$25
T&A9999	Aug/1992	Women in Rainbow Wigs, Holding up Bible Verses	\$28
T&A6699	Sept/1992	The Violent, Drunken Girls of Spring Break	\$29
T&A9966	Oct/1992	Playmate X-Rays	\$30
T&A9669	Nov/1992	Girls in Line at the DMV	\$31
T&A0069	Dec/1992	The "Women" of Eddie Murphy	\$32
T&A0669	Jan/1993	Despairing Women on Window Ledges	\$39
T&A6069	Feb/1993	Claymation Girls	\$40
T&A6009	Mar/1993	Women with Rug Burns	\$41
T&A9069	Apr/1993	1960's Playmates Grown Old and Wrinkled	\$42
T&A0006	May/1993	Garbage Scow Girls	\$43
T&A0009	June/1993	Slow Cars and Non-Descript Women	\$47
T&A0096	July/1993	Women in Granny Panties	\$47
T&A6900	Aug/1993	Women with Backne	\$49
T&A9600	Sept/1993	Overbite Beauties	\$49
T&A9006	Oct/1993	Estranged Twin Sisters	\$49
T&A6019	Nov/1993	The Fabulous MAD Babes	\$50
T&A9000	Dec/1993	The "Women" of <i>The Crying Game</i>	\$50
T&A6090	Jan/1994	Playboy Celebrates Cellulite	\$56
T&A0169	Feb/1994	The Women of Circus Sideshows	\$57
T&A0269	Mar/1994	Girls with Gingivitis	\$58
T&A0369	Apr/1994	College Dropout Girls	\$58
T&A0469	May/1994	Drab, Unsexy Lingerie	\$58
T&A0569	June/1994	Old Women in Parkas	\$60
T&A0669	July/1994	The Year in Sex, 1725	\$62
T&A0769	Aug/1994	The Women of Home Depot	\$66
T&A0869	Sept/1994	Dead-End Career Girls	\$71

ITEM #	DATE	TITLE	PRICE*
T&A0969	Oct/1994	Women with Allergies	\$73
T&A1069	Nov/1994	Constantly Angry Women	\$76
T&A1169	Dec/1994	Girls Who Wouldn't Date You if You Were the Only Man Alive	\$78
T&A1369	Feb/1995	The Girls of Rehab	\$80
T&A1469	Mar/1995	Drunk, Maudlin Women	\$82
T&A1569	Apr/1995	Playmates Receiving Oscars (Special April Fool's edition)	\$85
T&A1669	May/1995	Bereaving Women	\$91
T&A1769	June/1995	Invisible Women	\$94
T&A1869	July/1995	Girls Who Fell and Can't Get Up	\$98
T&A1969	Aug/1995	Women of Wal-mart	\$99
T&A2169	Sept/1995	Playmates on Prozac	\$101
T&A2269	Oct/1995	Women Assimilated by the Borg	\$104
T&A2369	Nov/1995	Women with Phony Smiles	\$113
T&A2569	Jan/1996	Seasick Women in Paradise	\$115
T&A2669	Feb/1996	Women Without Car Insurance	\$121
T&A2869	Apr/1996	Women Racked with Self Doubt, Feelings of Abandonment, PMS and Inner Torment	\$132
T&A2969	May/1996	Chain-Smoking Ladies	\$133

USE YOUR FREE HAND TO CALL US NOW! (600-AIR-BRUSH)

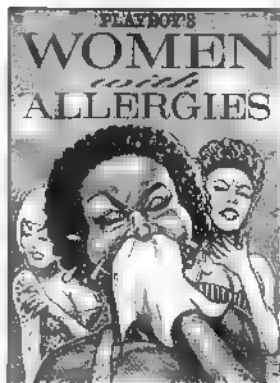
Charge to your *American Express* or *Uncover Card*.
Most orders shipped within 48 hours to wrong address.

FOR EVEN WORSE SERVICE ORDER BY MAIL!

All products will be indiscreetly shipped in bright orange packages with the words "Sexually Oriented Material" written on them in huge, bold letters.

There is a \$30 shipping and handling charge per order, whether you receive material or not! Utah and North Carolina Residents pay 6.5% sales tax, assuming we get any orders from those two repressed states.

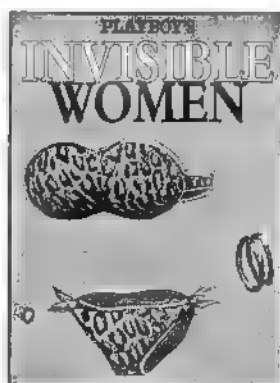
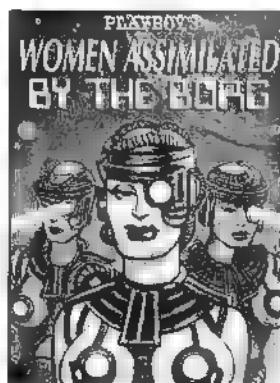
Persons under 21 years of age must provide fake ID.



ARTIST: GREG THEAKSTON



WRITER: JEFF KRUSE



* Prices Good thru 6/24/97. After that, they really shoot up.

MS
The Microsoft Network



Microsoft®

Microsoft Corporation, 1997



Lance Ito
is still a
practicing
judge!



The Stones
are touring
yet again!



We may be
looking at
Gore vs.
Quayle in
the year
2000!



Scary, eh? If those aren't
frightening enough, read on
as MAD presents (yet again)...

STILL EVEN MORE

CHILLING THOUGHTS



The camcorder has
been around long
enough that the
first wave of pur-
chasers are starting
to die — which
means that their
children will soon be
discovering the
homemade “erotic”
tapes their parents
forgot to burn or
erase before croaking.

With ongoing “will
they or won't they?”
sexual tension
becoming such a big
subtext of every sin-
gle TV series, next
year's episodes of
Barney and Friends,
This Old House and
Primetime Live
should be **REAL** interesting.





Today's baseball players are paying legal fines bigger than the career salaries of Willie Mays, Duke Snider and Mickey Mantle combined.

Howard Stern has conquered radio, TV, Pay-Per-View, books and movies — can the world of opera be far behind?



Now that he's made a bundle re-releasing an enhanced version of *Star Wars*, look for George Lucas to digitally update the rest of his films, starting with *Howard the Duck*.



There are adults — rational, college-educated adults — who read, and enjoy, the comic strip *Ziggy*.

With the boost that the infamous "front seat" sexcapade gave Hugh Grant's career, you know that Paul Hogan HAS to be thinking about it.



As senility approaches, Bob Dylan's new lyrics are bound to get a little more confused, and his voice a little more creaky.

Eeeewwwhhh — how does it feel to be knucklebone —er — the turnip shells are grown — hmmm, plastic David Cone — omnibus on loan — velvet slide trombone (hack), (cough) my children never phone — oops, I just passed a stone!

Whoop! All right! Man, He's still got it!



To keep his fans interested, Marilyn Manson will have to come up with something even more gimmicky next year.



If 90% of the scientists who ever lived are alive right now, that means that 90% of the mad scientists are too.



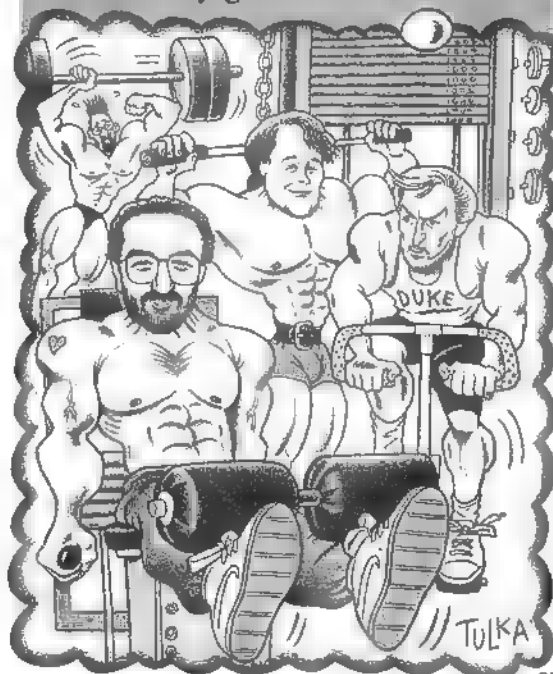
In 50 or 60 years, the weekly sing-along sessions at old folks' homes and retirement communities will consist of "Black Hole Sun," "Gangsta Gangsta" and "Head Like A Hole."

I'm like a dog in heat!
A freak without warning!
I got an appetite for love,
'cause me...so...horny!

UHHH! Me so horny!
UH-UHHH! Me so horny!
UH-UHHH! Me so horny!
Me love you long time!



This is already the fourth installment of "Chilling Thoughts" in about a year — and the people responsible for all four are still in reasonably good health.



As the 21st century gets underway, we'll be seeing the full effects of breast implants that never sag or deteriorate, surrounded by bodies that most definitely do.



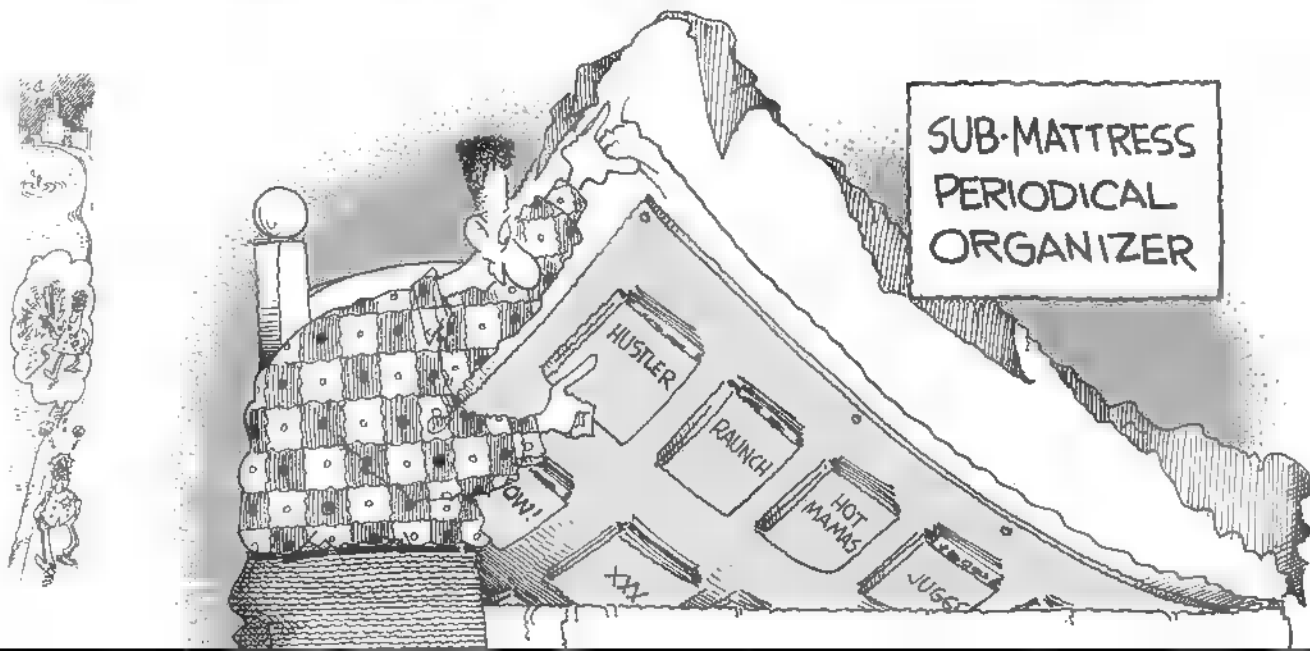


BACK AT THE RAUNCH DEPT.

"Sex toys," "marital aids," "relationship enhancers" — call 'em whatever you want, they're used by millions of sexually active folks across this great land! But isn't it about time that someone came up with "pleasure products" for the millions and millions of us who AREN'T getting any action? Then, on a lonely Saturday night, we could always cuddle up with these...

ADULT NOVELTIES FOR LOSERS

ARTIST & WRITER: JOHN CALDWELL



THE "CLAPPER"
BRAND VIBRATING
BOXER SHORTS



THE BATTERY
OPERATED
HICKEY
APPLICATOR



THE SNAP-ON
PHONE SEX DROOL TRAP



LISA, THE
LAP DANCING
MARIONETTE



MRS. POTATO HEAD
(THE ADULT VERSION)





PLAY THAT CHUNKY MUSIC, FAT BOY DEPT.

Once upon a time, if a stand-up comic was going to get his or her own sitcom, they had to have real talent, like Bill Cosby, Roseanne or Jerry Seinfeld. Soon the networks turned to the B-list: folks like Tim Allen, Martin Lawrence, Sinbad and Ellen DeGeneres. After that, they got REALLY desperate and signed up Brett Butler. Then, with Sheeky Greene refusing to leave Vegas, Carrot Top estimating his prop budget ■ be \$1 million per show and Jackie Mason's bum ticker keeping him at home, ABC had no choice but to drag the sludge-filled bottom of the Gigggle Shack barrel to find you-know-who! The result was...

the DRO

Meany, can you pass me ■ couple of paper clips?

Get your own stinkin' paper clips, Mr. Dip-wad!

You know, Meany that's really not very nice at all!

You want nice... work at an orphanage! This is ■ hard-ass department store! Hey, it's chilly in here, dork! Did you turn up the air conditioner!?

Why don't you rub your thighs together and start a fire!

They're at it again! This office isn't big enough for the two of them!

The Province of Manitoba isn't big enough for the two of them!

Where are we? We're not in Kansas anymore, Dorothy! This place is called Cleveland!

Gosh, I never knew a place could be so dazzling and glamorous! You call this dazzling and glamorous?



OP CAREY SHOW



No! I suddenly realized that KANSAS is dazzling and glamorous!

This is one of Cleveland's top department stores!

They're not doing much business!

It's sort of a specialty store!

What do they specialize in?

They specialize in smart-ass one-liners and lots of them!

I don't get it! What's with the popularity of this show?

Droop Carey! He's Everyman! He's got the paunch, the nerdy horn-rims! He's every shlub, every dork, every wide-assed fat guy loser who strikes out with women!

Wow! And the Nielsen ratings continue to soar for the show?

Yeah! But the hunk poster is not doing that well!



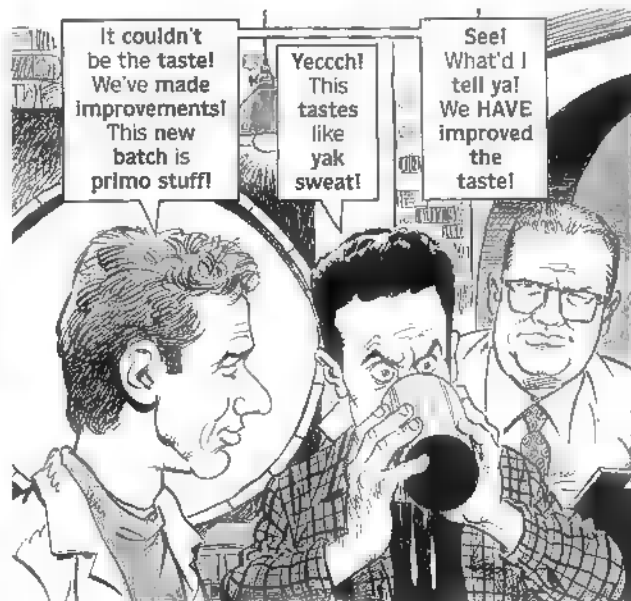
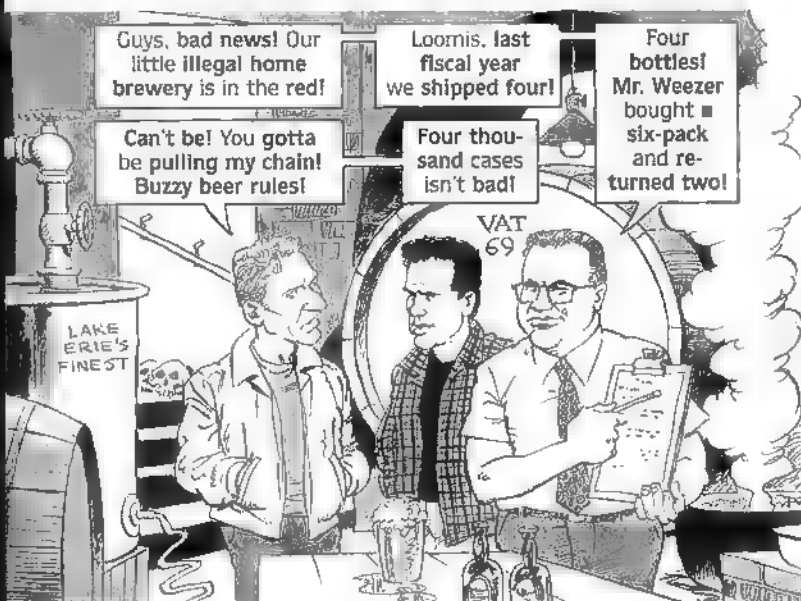
Make way, trauma victim!

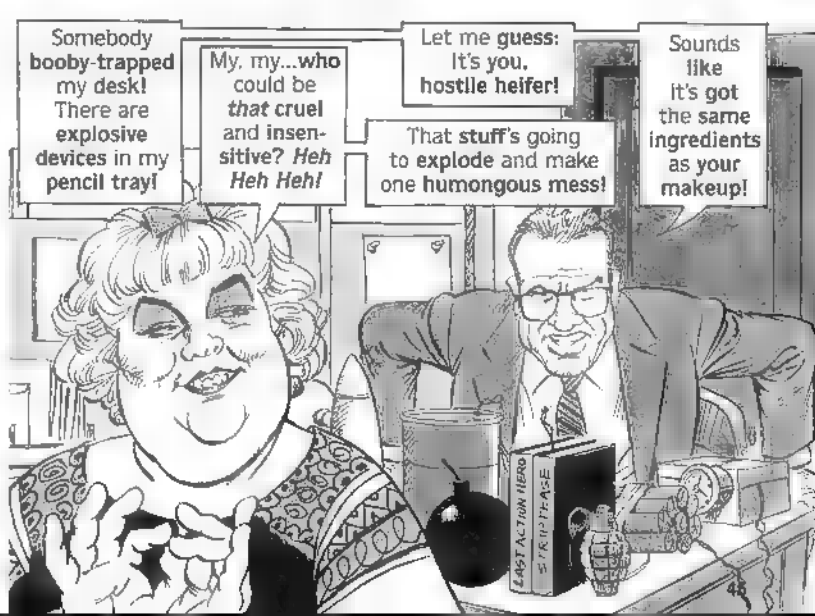
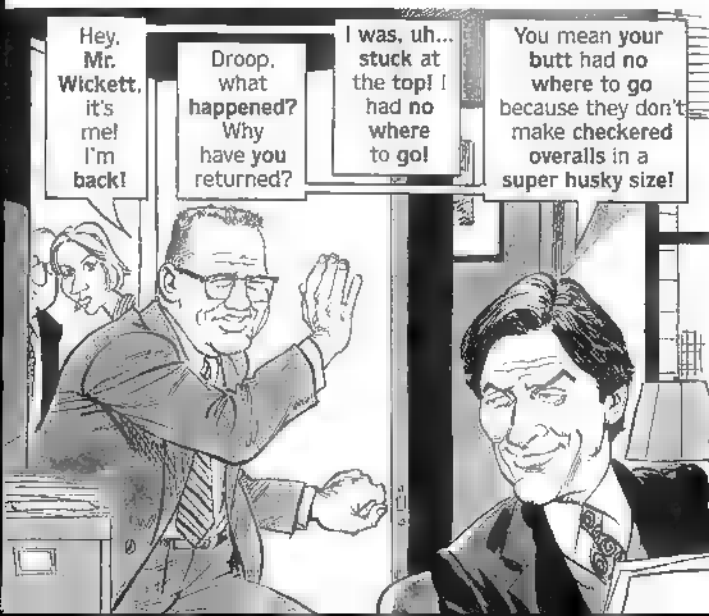
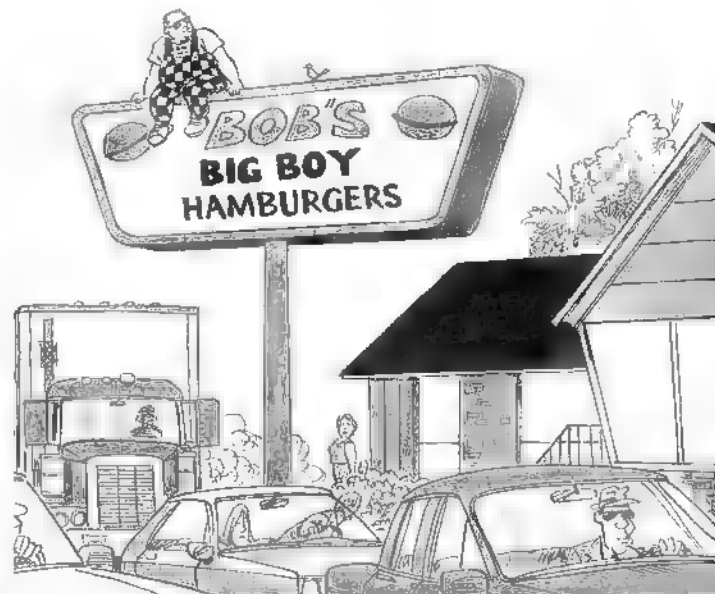
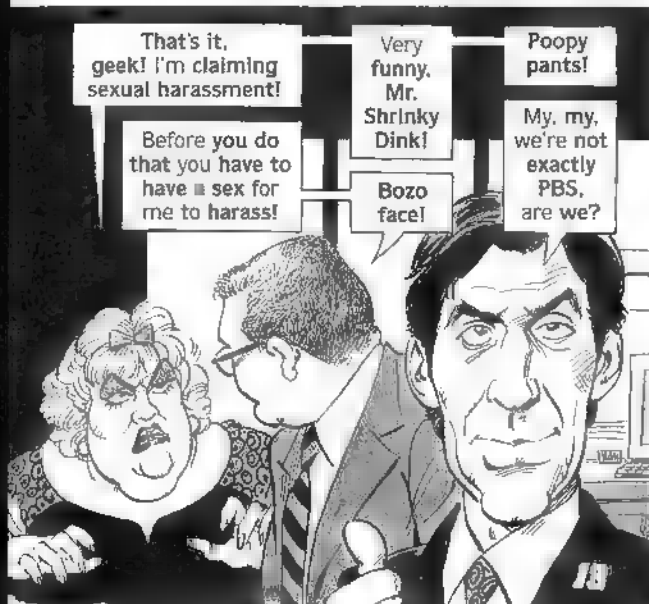
Who the heck is that?

The show's makeup man! He's been touching up Meany's face for three seasons! It finally caught up with him!

LENNY AND SQUIGGY FAN CLUB

WHOSE SLIME IS IT ANYWAY





You think I'm the pits, don't you? You think I can't get dates? You think no men are interested in me?

Nonsense, Meany! I know two men who are thrilled with you!

Who are they?

Ben and Jerry!

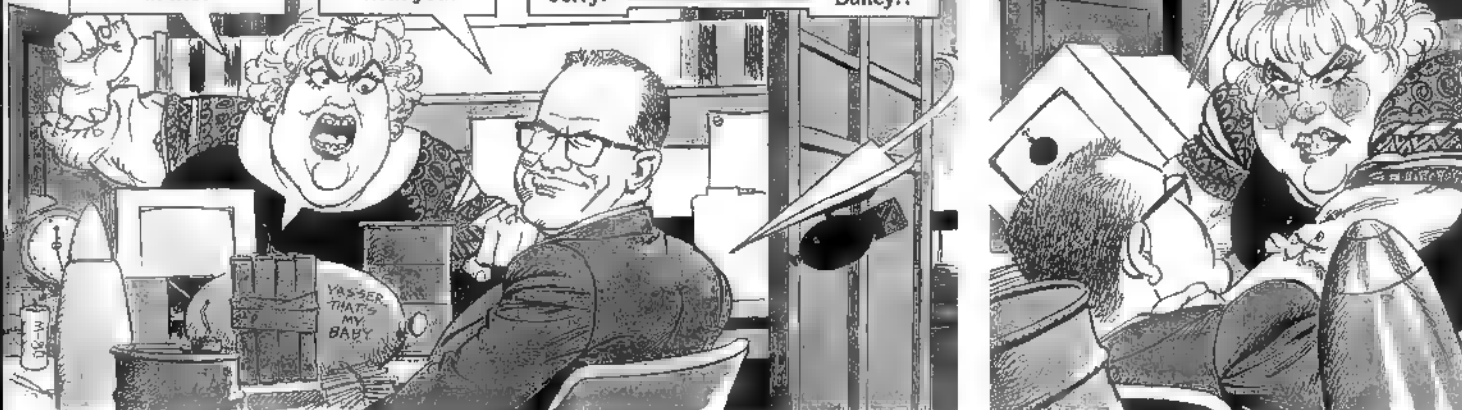
Ben and Jerry? Is that the best you can do, jackass?

Okay... how about... hmmm... Barnum and Bailey?!

I can hurt you, pig! I've hurt many men in my life!

Let me guess! You were on top!

That'll cost you big time!



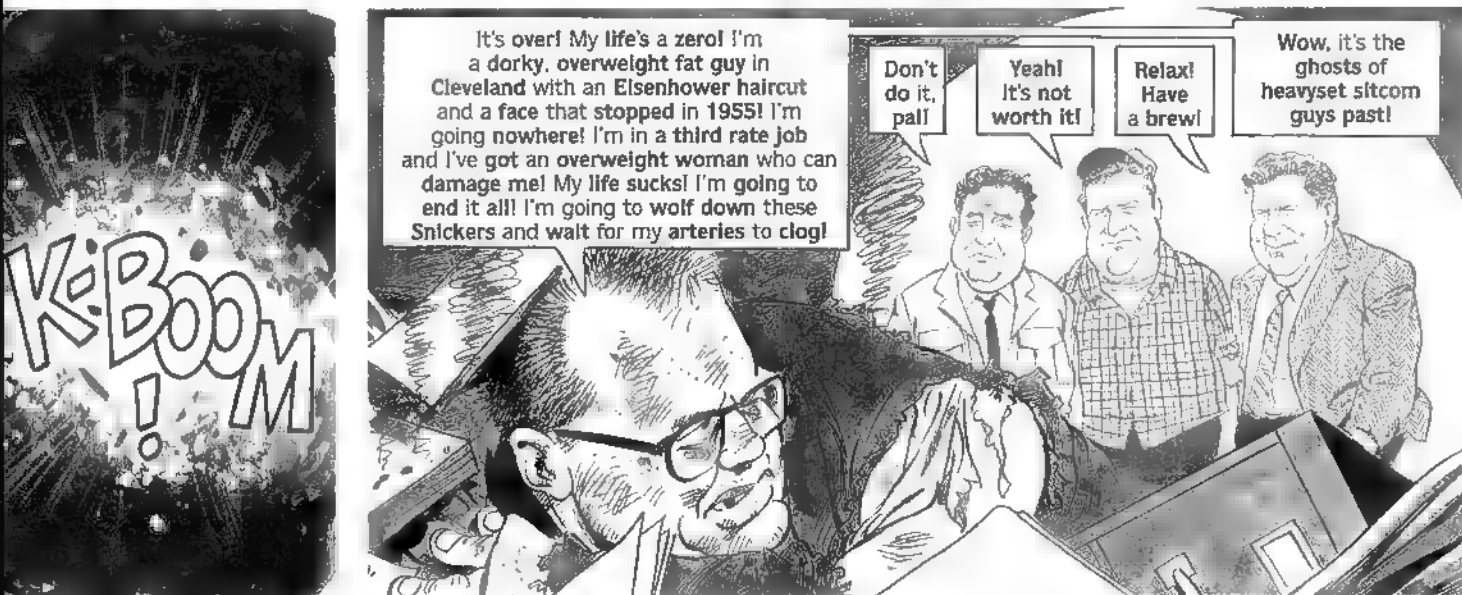
It's over! My life's a zero! I'm a dorky, overweight fat guy in Cleveland with an Eisenhower haircut and a face that stopped in 1955! I'm going nowhere! I'm in a third rate job and I've got an overweight woman who can damage me! My life sucks! I'm going to end it all! I'm going to wolf down these Snickers and wait for my arteries to clog!

Don't do it, pal!

Yeah! It's not worth it!

Relax! Have a brew!

Wow, it's the ghosts of heavysset sitcom guys past!



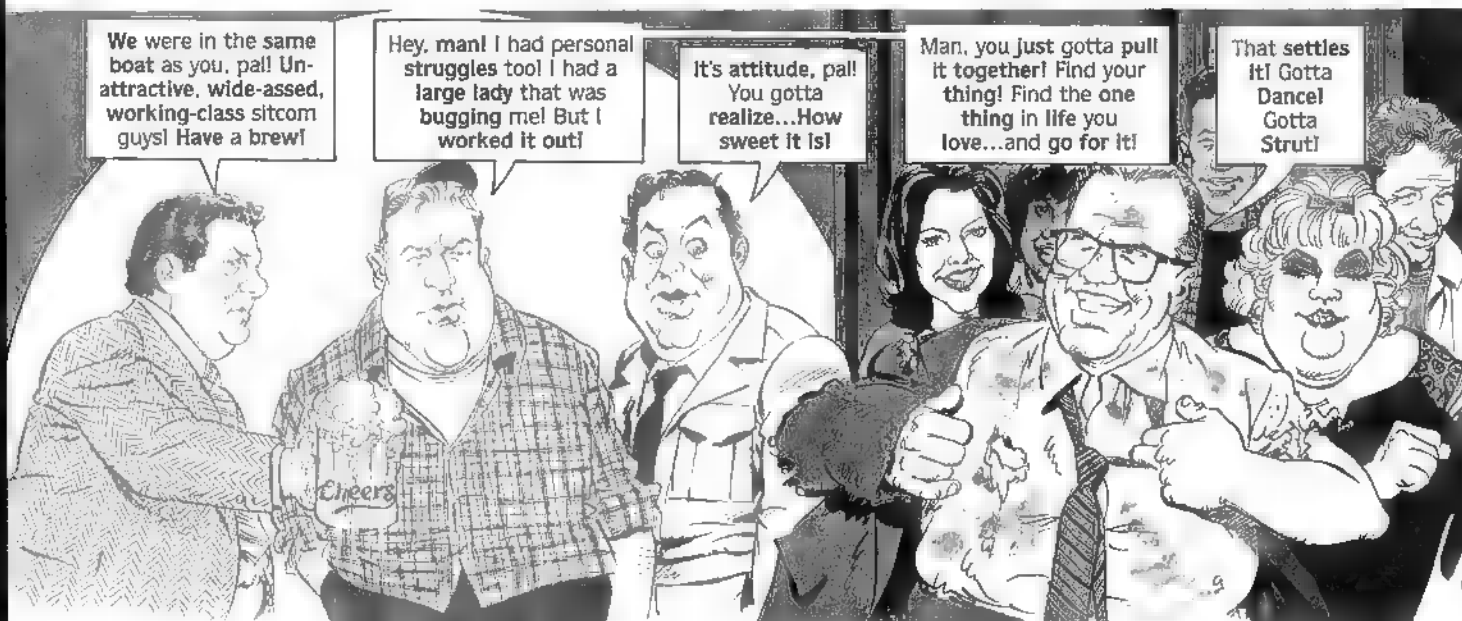
We were in the same boat as you, pal! Un-attractive, wide-assed, working-class sitcom guys! Have a brew!

Hey, man! I had personal struggles too! I had a large lady that was bugging me! But I worked it out!

It's attitude, pal! You gotta realize...How sweet it is!

Man, you just gotta pull it together! Find your thing! Find the one thing in life you love...and go for it!

That settles it! Gotta Dancel Gotta Strut!



**No!
It's
the
weekly
sponta-
neous
dance
produc-
tion
number!**

Odd! The cast has been "rehearsing" this "spontaneous" dance number for the past two months!

**Wow!
I
love
it!
Isn't
this
incred-
ible
tele-
vision!**

It's just what America wants to see! Fat people shaking their booty!

This could be the worst TV musical piece since that disaster a few years back... *Cop Rock!*

At least in *Cop Rock* the dancers weren't sucked into each other's gravitational pull!

What a unique "concept" Droop is doing the "Time Warp" from Rocky Horror and Meany is Priscilla, Queen of the Desert!

Look! And there's a third dance team! wearing costumes from the show *ER!*

Actually, that's a real emergency team — just in case Droop and Meany collide!



Viewers voted this the second most popular moment of the show!

What's the most popular moment?

**When they
finally stop!**

I just
love
to
shake
my
groove
thing!

Just keep it up, babel! This number is likely to win us an award!

An Emmy?

**More likely —
"Best Sow &
Boar" at the
Ohio State Fair
and Livestock
Show!**

Whew!
I sure
am one
hot
mama!

We're running long! Meany, stop dancing and break into a melody!

Why?

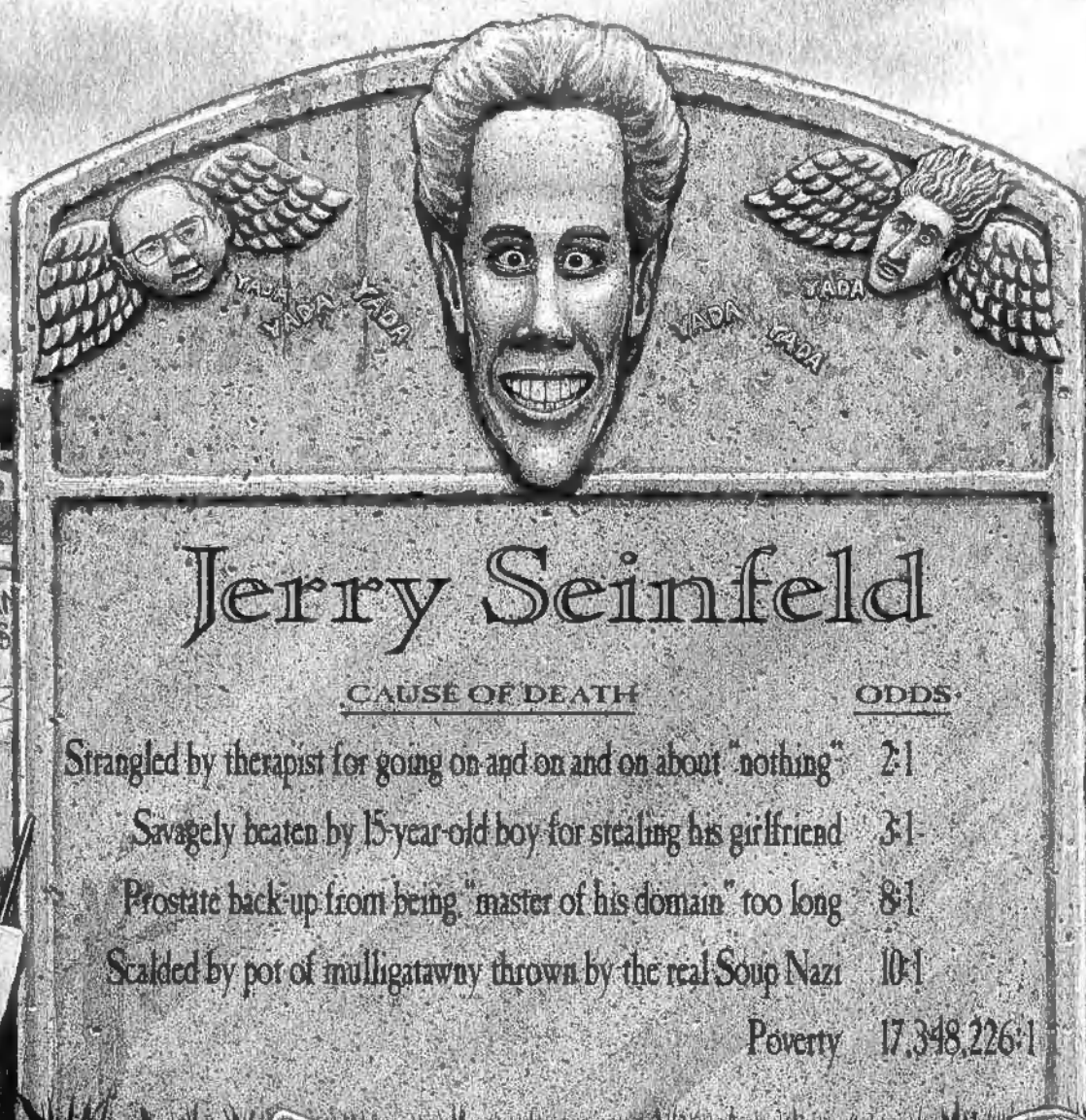
Because
everyone
knows the
show ain't
over till the
fat lady
sings!



GRIEVING LAS VEGAS DEPT.

MAD'S CELEBRITY CAUSE-OF-DEATH BETTING ODDS

Our team of crack oddsmakers gives you the latest Vegas line on how one of today's biggest stars is going to settle down for a tasty bowl of death soup!
THIS MONTH'S ROTTING PILE OF FLESH-TO-BE:

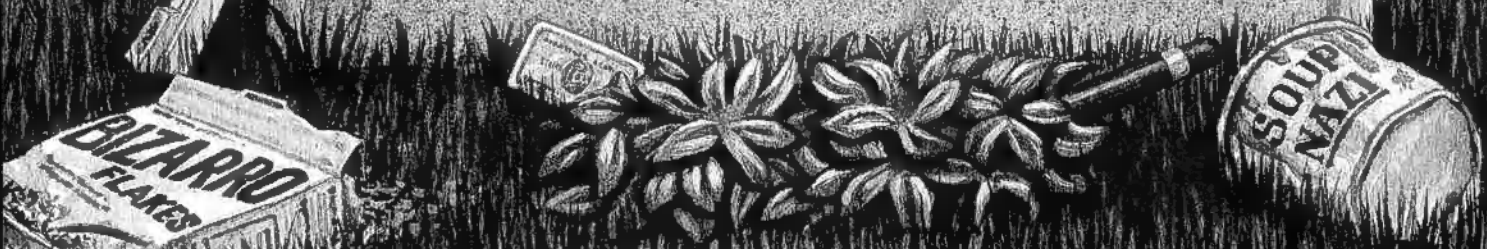


Jerry Seinfeld

CAUSE OF DEATH

ODDS

Strangled by therapist for going on and on and on about "nothing"	2:1
Savagely beaten by 15-year-old boy for stealing his girlfriend	3:1
Prostate back-up from being "master of his domain" too long	8:1
Scalded by pot of mulligatawny thrown by the real Soup Nazi	10:1
Poverty	17,348,226:1



ARTIST: JAMES WARHOLA

WRITER: MIKE SNIDER

**WHAT BELOVED FOUR
LEGGED CREATURE
WON'T BE AROUND
TO LIGHT UP
KIDS' LIVES THIS
CHRISTMAS?**

HERE WE GO WITH ANOTHER RIDICULOUS MAD FOLD-IN

Every child loves Christmas. From trimming the tree and making holiday cookies to receiving gifts, the holiday season is an exciting time! However, this spirit can be broken if expectations aren't fulfilled and someone turns up missing from the festivities. To find out who this absent critter is, fold page as shown.



FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!



FOLD THIS SECTION OVER LEFT



FOLD BACK SO "A" MEETS "B"



**JOLLY HOLIDAY SPIRITS ARE AFFECTED WHEN WE
CAN'T SEE OLD FRIENDS. THIS SAD FACT IS EM-
PHASIZED BY THE MELANCHOLY MANY PEOPLE FEEL**

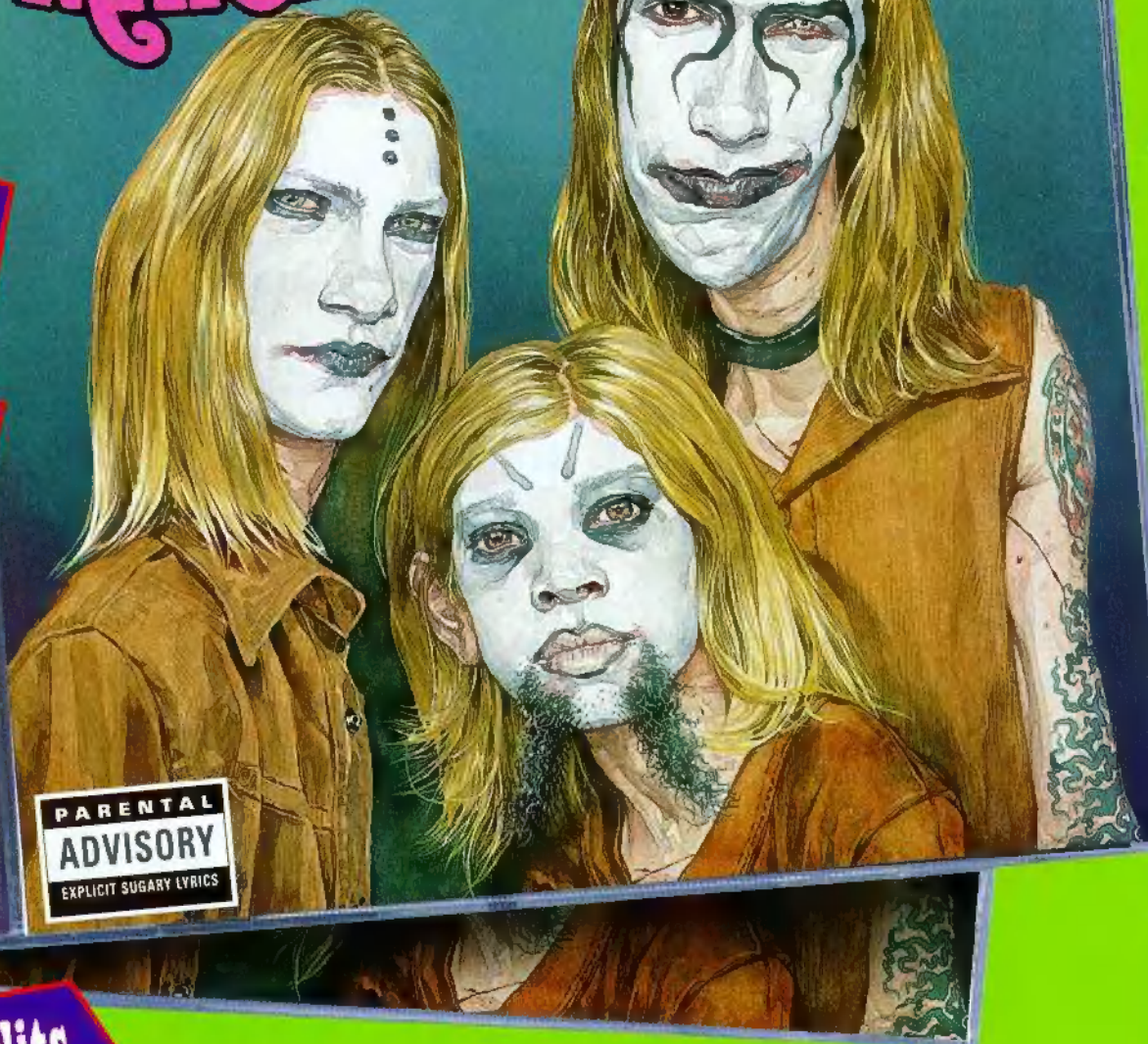


ARTIST AND WRITER: AL JAFFEE



Now Available on Jerkury/Interdope CDs & Tapes!

MARILYN hanson



THEY'RE
A LITTLE BIT
CUTESY...

...A
LITTLE BIT
GOTH 'N'
ROLL!

Featuring The Hits

MMMBondage ♦ Smells Like Three Goofy Children ♦ Diary
of a Dope (and His Two Brothers) ♦ I Spent My Allowance
on Goat's Blood ♦ Where's the Love? Probably Next to
Your Missing Chromosome ♦ A Minute Without Urine